

Inked

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THE SEX ISSUE

FEATURING

THE
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WEBCAM
GIRLS
WITH
TATTOOS

AND

JOANNA
ANGEL

STARRING
**RILEY
JENSEN**

PLUS:

CHRIS
“BIRDMAN”
ANDERSEN

NOFX’S
FAT MIKE

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PANTHER

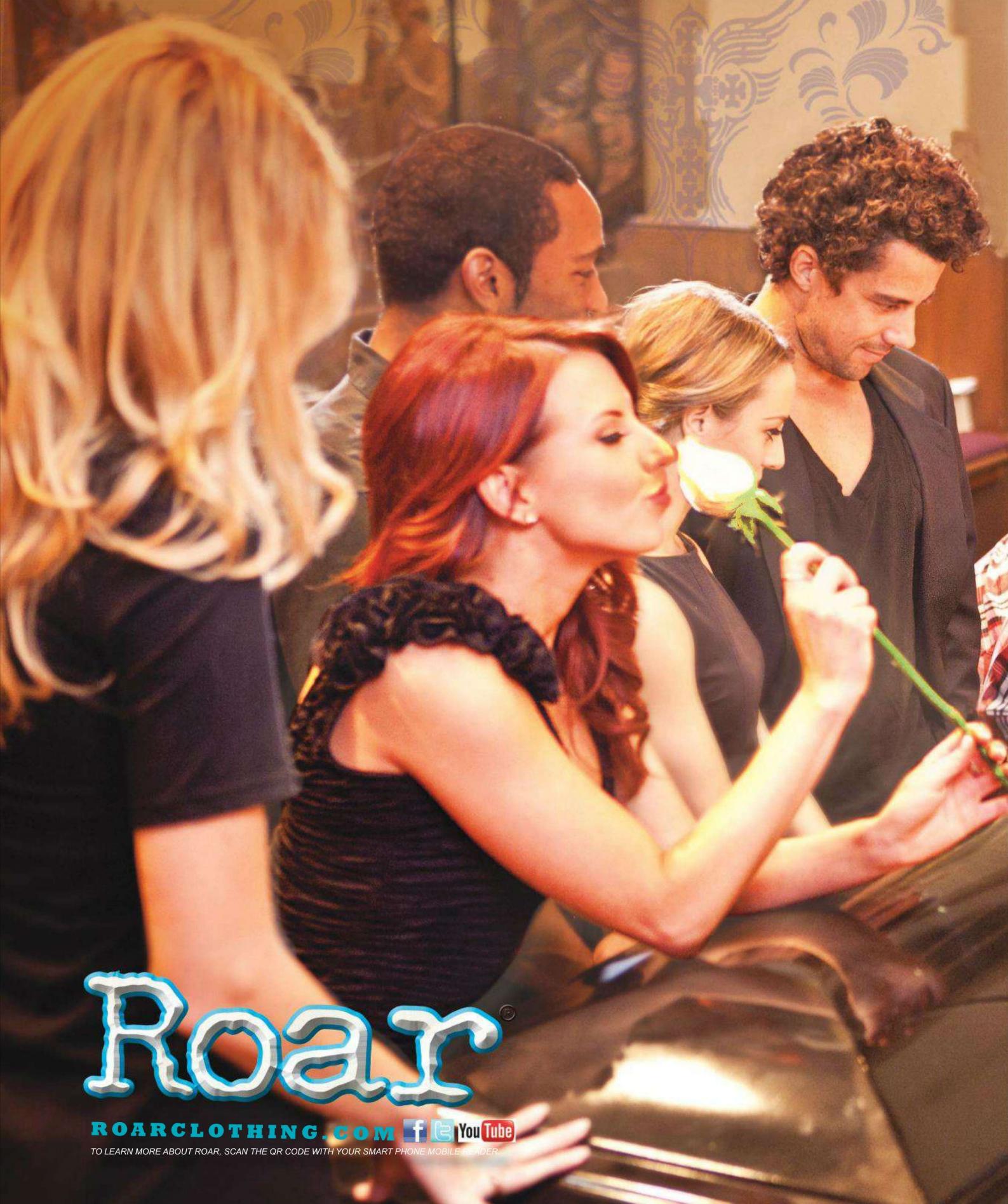
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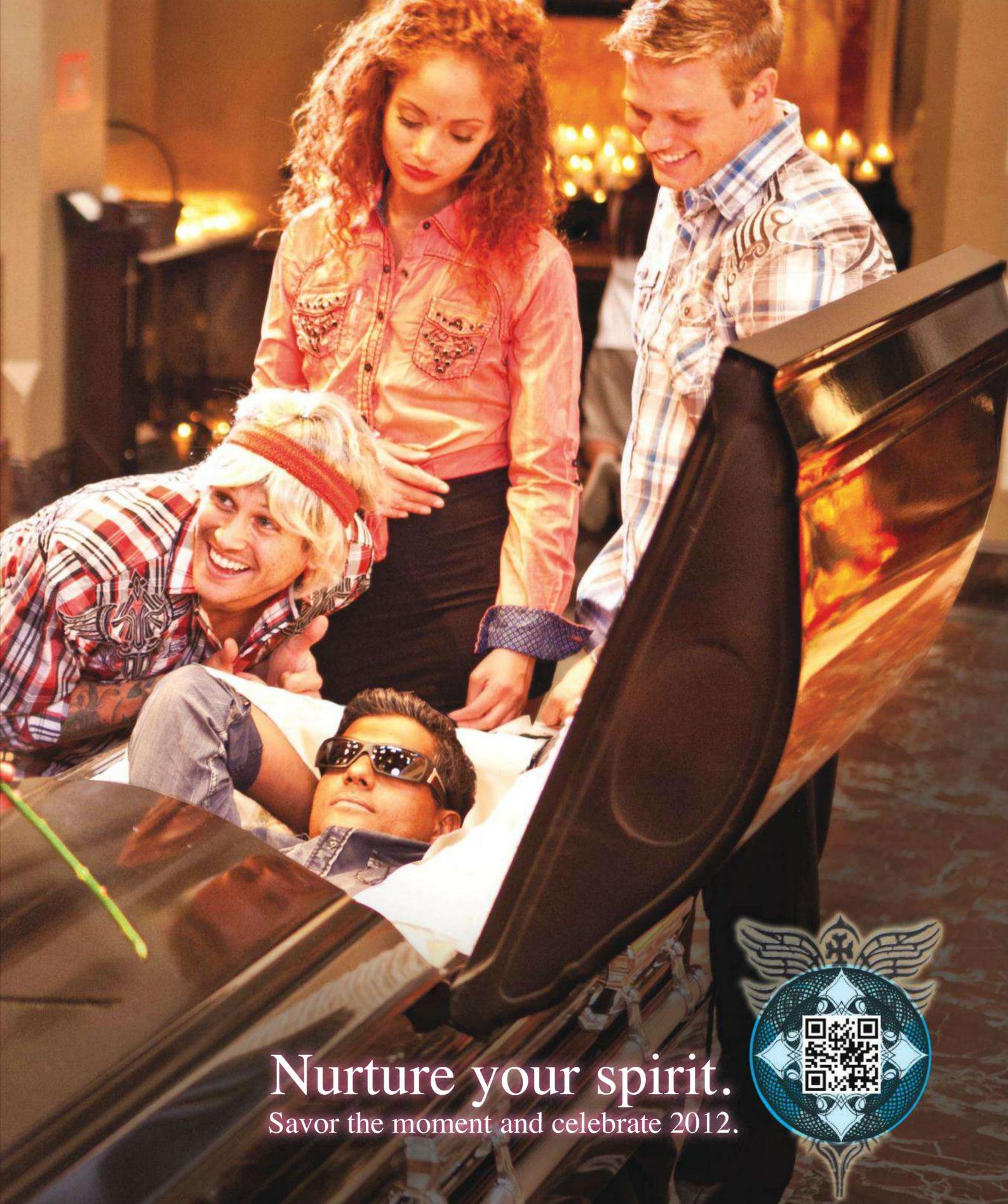
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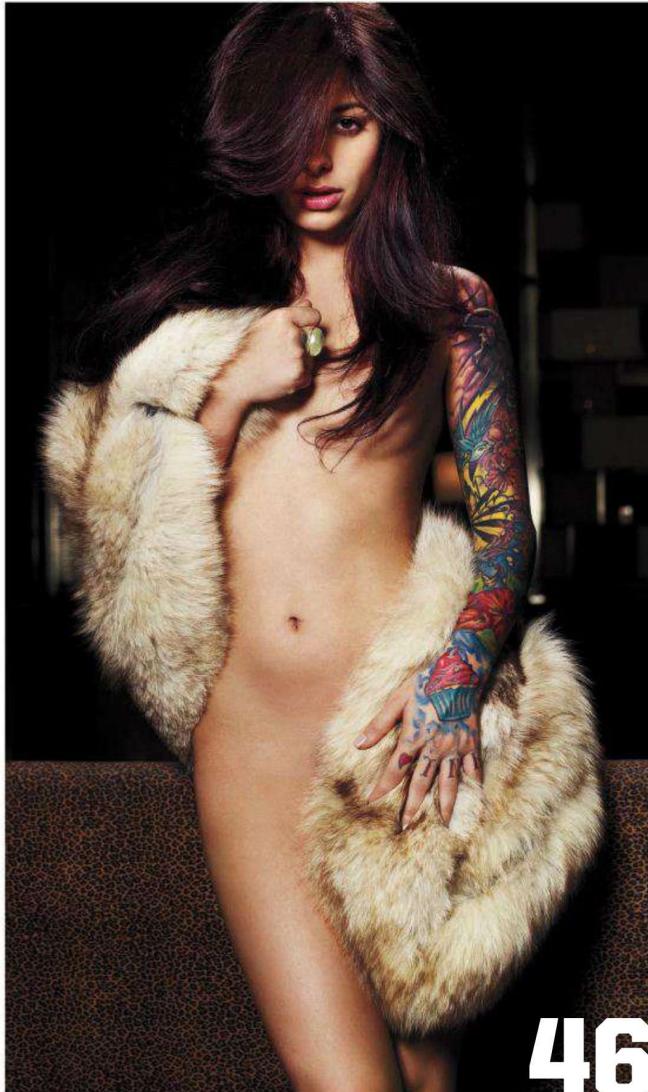
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On the cover: photo: WARWICK SAINT; styling: XINA GIATAS; hair: DAN SHARP, lead stylist for T3 at dankapanka.com; makeup: EMILY KATE WARREN for emilykatewarren.com; location: EMPIRE HOTEL NEW YORK; retouching: IMPACT DIGITAL. CLO Intimo underwear; Wendy Mink ring.

SAILOR JERRY

PRESENTS

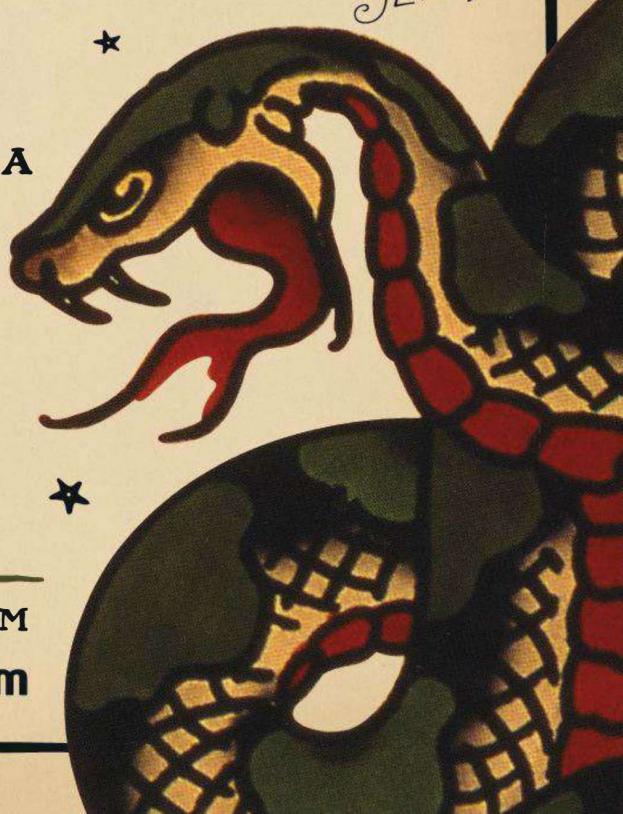
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INKMASTER

TV'S FIRST TATTOO
COMPETITION SHOW

Spike is looking to get under viewers' skin with the series premiere of *Ink Master*, the first-ever tattoo competition reality series starting Tuesday, January 17 at 10 PM, ET/PT. Ten of the nation's top tattoo artists from around the country will battle it out in permanent ink for a \$100,000 cash prize, an editorial feature in **INKED** magazine, and the title of "Ink Master."



BILI VEGAS
Sacred Tattoo in
New York, NY
"You'll love me or hate me."

LEA VENDETTA
A Stroke of Genius
Tattoos in Boca Raton, FL
"I want to show the world
that a girl can win this."

TOMMY HELM
Empire State Studio,
Oceanside, NY
"I'm the best in New York.
No doubt about it."

BRIAN 'B-TAT' ROBINSON
Moving Ink based
in Essex County, NJ
"I can't stand a person
who can't take the pain."

AL FICTION
Bklyn Ink in
Brooklyn, NY
"You haven't been tattooed
until you've been Al-flicted."



Al Fiction



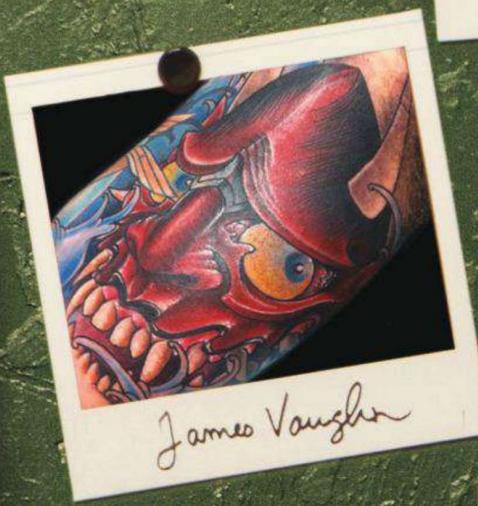
Heather Sinn



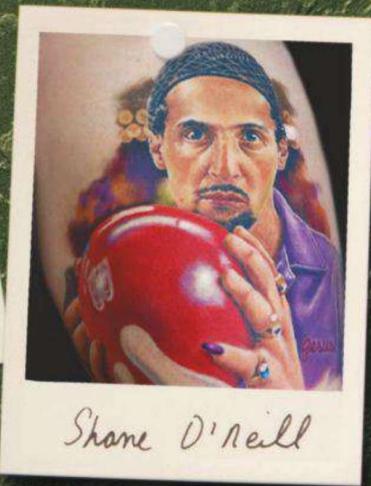
Jeremy Miller



Josh Woods



James Vaughn



Shane O'Neill

SPIKE™

GET REAL



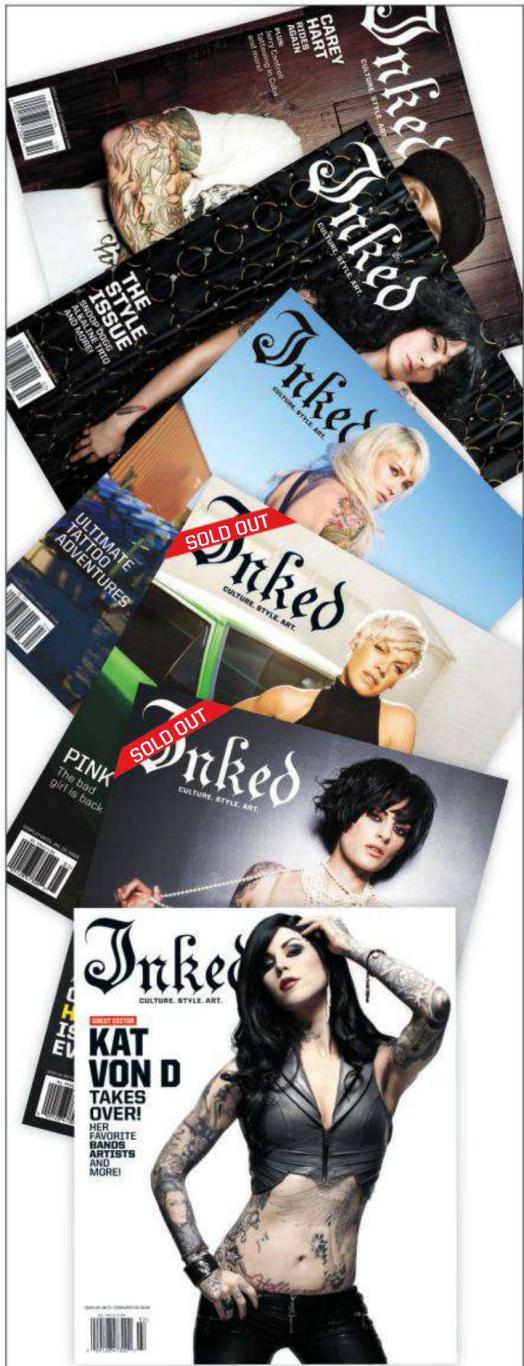
HEATHER SINK
The Tattoo Room
in Simi Valley, CA
“I was born an artist—
I was born to win.”

JEREMY MILLER
Pigment Dermagraphics and
Fine Art in Austin, TX
“I love a good fight
to the finish.”

JOSH WOODS
Black I3 Tattoo in
Nashville, TN
“I’m gunning to take
down the whole group.”

JAMES VAUGHN
Straight A Tattoo in
Asheboro, NC
“In this business it’s
easy to be mediocre;
I strive to be the best.”

SHANE O’NEILL
Shane O’Neill Tattoos in
Middleton, DE and
Willow Grove, PA
“I’m here to win period.”



Inked

BACK ISSUES

CHECK OUT ALL OF THE AVAILABLE ISSUES AT
INKEDMAG.COM/INKED_STORE/BACKISSUES

Inked

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international licensing

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 langhorne, pa 19047

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inkedmag.com
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 prestige fulfillment
 888-465-3305
 subscriptions@themagstore.com

chief financial officer

accounts receivable

newsstand consultants

fulfillment

subscription info

INKED, ISSN (1555-8630) Issue 42 is published monthly except combined issue in Jun/Jul & Dec/Jan by Quadra Media, LLC 12 West 27th St, 10th floor, New York, NY 10001. Application to mail periodicals postage rates is pending at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices.

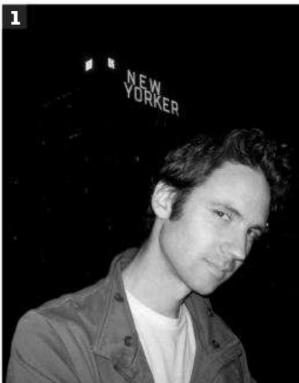
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Inked Magazine, P.O. Box 8607, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310-9965.

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ink well

Sex is everything. It creates life, keeps the world turning, and informs every decision we make, whether we are conscious of it or not. This thought first hit me while watching the 1998 movie *BASEketball* when Trey Parker's character says, "We gotta get jobs. Then we get the khakis. Then we get the chicks." Essentially he was saying that careerism, fashion, and, on a grand scale, capitalism, are all motivated by intercourse. So in the month rose barons decided to dedicate to love, we go a little deeper and celebrate the universe's driving force: sex.

We'd be remiss if we didn't highlight the most prolific tattooed girl on film, Joanna Angel. The queen was shot by Brad DeCecco (1). Also in our INKED People section this month is Tristan Taormino, a porn director and erotic writer who is updating cheesy sex-ed films with her modern sensibility; she's profiled by writer Rachel Kramer Bussel (2) and photographed by Marley Kate (3). For instructions on how to write a "lust song" we turned to the outrageous Steel Panther, and for more on the sex lives of musicians, NOFX's Fat Mike and his girlfriend and dominatrix Soma Snakeoil opened up their love lair to writer Charlie Connell (5).

That sexy girl on the cover? She's adult film star—and now INKED Girl—Riley Jensen. She and the cam girls in this issue were captured by Warwick Saint (6) in a portfolio of photos produced by our newish photo editor, Susan Hennessey (7) and styled by Xina Giatas (4). Then Chip Rowe (8), who writes *Playboy's* Playboy Advisor column, contributes his take on the story of Samuel Steward, a homosexual professor who became a tattoo artist in the 1950s so he could meet his type of men.

Like I said, sex is everything.

The signature of Rocky Rakovic, which appears to be handwritten in black ink.

Rocky Rakovic
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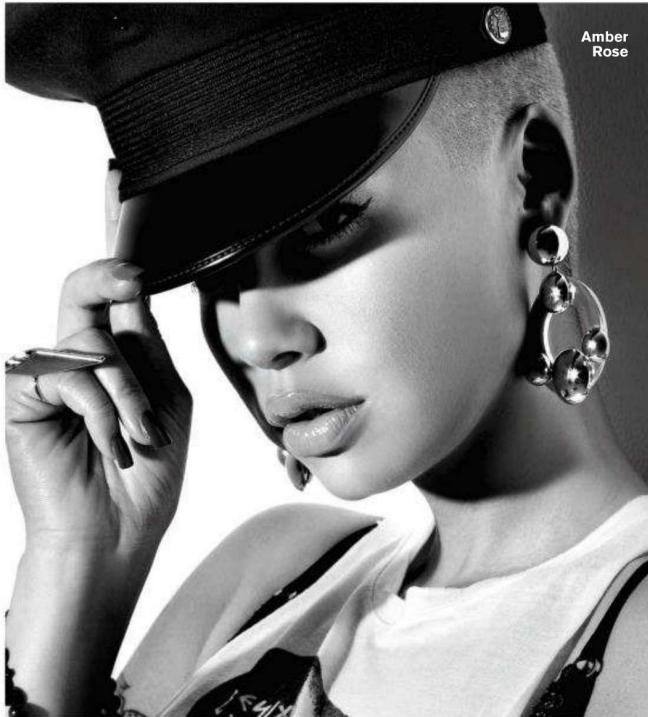


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BALD IS BEAUTIFUL

Thank you, thank you for the Amber Rose cover and article. She makes bald look sexy. I've been going through chemotherapy treatment for cancer and one of the things I was really nervous about going into it was losing my beautiful hair. I know that it sounds trivial for someone facing death to be worried about her hair, but it made me feel feminine. When I lost my hair some people at my job and my family surprised me by shaving their heads. I was so grateful, but it made me feel sad that I made them cut their hair. But when I look at Amber Rose, who is perfectly healthy, rocking the bald head and looking fabulous I know I am in sexy company.

Thank you for recognizing that women with no hair are still smoking.

Petra Drew
New York, NY

FEELING ROSIE

Hot damn! That Amber Rose is one fine-looking lady. Normally I like it when you guys feature women with more tattoos, but I'll forgive you this time. I dig the way you shot her. Black and white is sexy. Look out, Wiz.

Donald Henderson
Reading, PA

WE DON'T BITE

I am a volunteer at a local animal rescue in Providence, RI, and I'm finishing up my first sleeve. I love your magazine!



AMBER ROSE

Betty Coupe Love the cover with Amber Rose.

Shane Currie Any man who says [Amber's] not that fine needs glasses.

MICHELLE MYLES

Ben MC She's right about [Daredevil] being one of the friendliest shops in NYC. She did a koi on my arm when I visited on my honeymoon. Nothing but respect for Michelle. I look at my arm every day and it reminds me of a great holiday.

TAYLOR REEVE

Rob Eason I'm now so in love with her work. So glad y'all did an article on her to clue us in as to her awesomeness and otherwise badassery.

ZOMBIE BOY

Mallory Zappa Beautiful inside and out.

Ginita Valenzuela Muah!!!! Sooo sexy.



READER OF THE MONTH

GENEVIEVE STAR
Melbourne, Australia

Want to be a Reader of the Month?
E-mail photos to inkedgirl@inkedmag.com

THE POSING DEAD

I always thought Zombie Boy was mad creepy, but when you dressed him up in suits he looked like a polished gentleman. Your clothing shoots are super helpful because when I look at other magazines' fashion photographs I can't tell how the outfits would look on tattooed skin. Can I see some wet suits next?

Francis Quigley
Tacoma, WA



WRITE US. Got something to say? Send all praise, notes of complaint, story suggestions, and other comments to letters@inkedmag.com. All submissions should include the writer's name and address. Letters may be edited for clarity, length, and content. Also join the party at facebook.com/inkedmag.



MY FIRST INK

Name: Sparky Sin Claire

Occupation: Adult actress

Hometown: Oceanside, CA

"My first tattoo was the first three words of the U.S. Constitution, 'We the People,' across the middle of my chest. I got it at a girl's apartment somewhere in Escondido. I was underage but had graduated high school early, so I was in college at the time. I got the idea from my political science class. One of my professors who teaches at Palomar Community College, in San Marcos, CA, is one of the most powerful influences in my life; he helped me find my true passion and direction of study in constitutional law. Okay, I admit it: I had a teacher-student fantasy and I thought it'd score me some brownie points."

PHOTO BY BRANDON SHOWERS



BARBIE'S NEW ACCESSORIES

Barbie has drawn the ire of many a complainer (she's anorexic! she promotes sexism!) and was once again a lightning rod when Tokidoki and Mattel updated her image. *This funky fashionista features trendy tattoos and a pink bob. With cactus friend, Bastardino, by her side, she's ready for fun in fashion-forward form!* reads the doll's description. Oh, the humanity! Should parents worry their 6-year-olds are going to cut kindergarten to get tattooed? At least Tokidoki Barbie's tattoos—from the portrait on her shoulder to the intricate back piece including flowers, a butterfly, and a dragon—look impressive. Perhaps the doll, which quickly sold out, will influence girls to get good pieces when they come of age.

61%
of people

say the reputation of a tattoo artist and tattoo studio is the most important factor when deciding to get tattooed.



BETTER THAN A SARAH MCLACHLAN SONG

This past fall, the owner of the Muskingum County Animal Farm in Ohio released his animals, then committed suicide. Police were forced to shoot more than 40 of the escaped exotic creatures, including lions and Bengal tigers, while a grizzly bear, two monkeys, and a few leopards were caught and delivered to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, which wasn't prepared to pay for their care. "It was crazy," Billy White, owner of Yellow Rose Tattoo in Zanesville, OH, told the *Detroit Free Press*. "I thought, What could I do to help in some way?" What he did was donate the proceeds (more than \$1,300) he made off of animal tattoos he completed in the week afterward to the public zoo.

WALKING BILLBOARD

Meet Ron Jones, from Bartlesville, OK: He has acquired 103 tattoos that pertain to sites along the iconic Route 66. Even more impressive, Jones didn't start getting inked until he was 51. "My first tattoo was the Route 66 shield with part of the highway running through it," he told the *Daily Mail*. "What the second was, I couldn't tell ya. After you get so many you lose track." Everything from landmarks to road signs make up the vast collection done by "Gypsy" and Kelly of Eyewitness Tattoo.



RON JONES, DARLEEN BITTER

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CHOCOHOL

This Valentine's Day go with adult chocolates.

Red roses say "I love you" and a Whitman's Sampler says "I stopped at the drugstore on the way to your house," but neither says "I was really thinking about you." This year, you want something clever. We're not going to recommend charm bracelets (we don't even know her birthstone) or direct you to a Build-a-Bear Workshop. What we will propose is that you incorporate *you* into Valentine's Day. After all, the holiday isn't a celebration of her, but one of you as a couple (that said, we know a guy who took the gender-equality notion to

the extreme and gave his girlfriend an engagement ring, then demanded she reciprocate by buying him a Jet Ski—don't do that). Instead, go to a place you both like to eat at, do an activity you both enjoy, and, if she likes chocolate and you like to drink, meet in the middle with something like a bottle of Pinnacle Chocolate Vodka or one of the other suggestions at right. And since INKED scientists have discovered that chocolate is usually catnip to the fairer sex, make sure you indulge, too, and let it linger on your breath. —Robert McCormick

COCKTAIL CONVERSATION

Fall in love with Lauren Eimicke, head bartender at the Hustler Club in New York City.

What's it like working in a sexually charged environment?

I feel when you're a bartender in the service industry, no matter where you work the sexual aspect is always there. The only thing different about my environment is that my customers are surrounded by beautiful half-naked women.

What's the worst line you've ever heard? When men are surrounded by half-naked women, they don't pay that much attention to the bartenders. So I don't get hit on as often as people would think. But the worst pickup line that I've gotten would have to be: "I'm really not a strip club guy, but my friends dragged me here." I've heard that a few times.

How do the men react to your tattoos? Customers like my tattoos. They have a fun time figuring out what they are and what they mean. I even had one customer tell me I had more ink than his printer at work.

Do you have a favorite tattoo? My most recent one that I got while traveling in Thailand. My good friends and I all decided to get the same tattoo. It was done the old-school way, with bamboo, and it was also blessed. The tattoo is written in Cambodian script, and it's supposed to give you protection and bring you luck. It's very meaningful to me since I got to experience it with my friends, and because the Thai culture and Buddhist way of life are beautiful.

WORKDAY TREAT

A box of Anthon Berg Chocolate Liqueurs with Original Spirits (anthonberg.com) is the grown-up candy heart. The Danish chocolatier puts premium liquors like Drambuie, Sauza Tequila, Jack Daniel's, Malibu Rum, and Cutty Sark into bottle-shaped sweets. Surprisingly, every alcohol works well with chocolate.



BRUNCH BEVERAGE

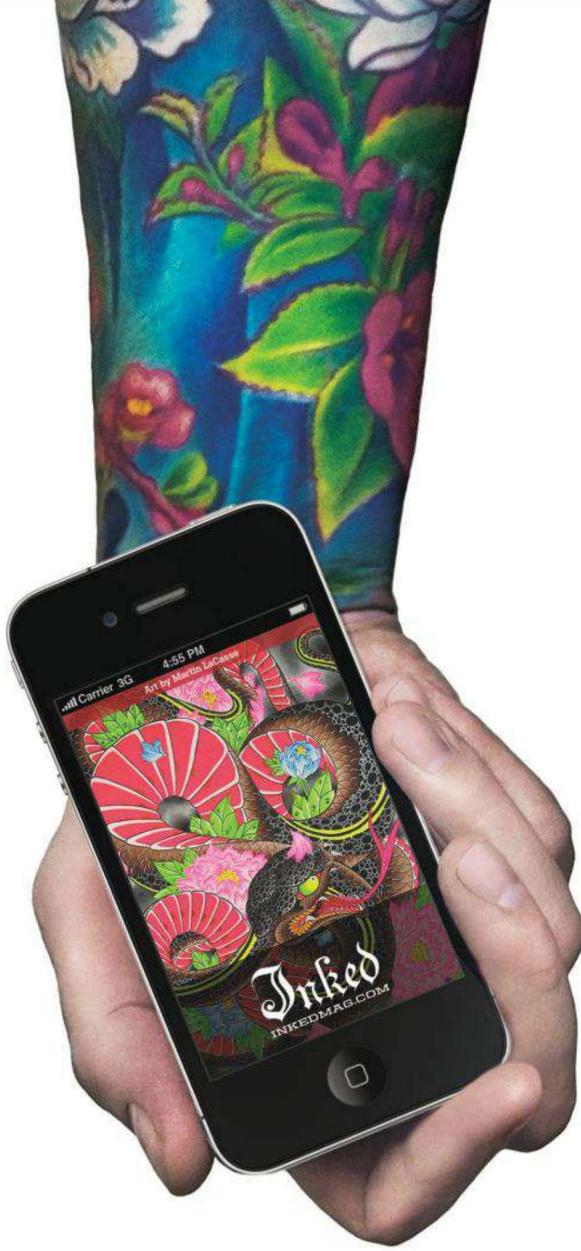
Whip up a Chocolate-Chip Pancake Martini: Shake 2 ounces Pinnacle Chocolate Whipped Vodka, 1 ounce milk, and a splash of maple syrup with ice, then strain into a chilled martini glass.



AFTER-DINNER SIPPY

Brooklyn Black Chocolate Stout (Brooklyn Brewery) is an Imperial that will cut through the wonderful meal you just gorged on. A creamy head complements the robust dark chocolate flavor nicely. Overall it sits lighter than most stouts and has a warming 10% ABV.





Inked

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Clockwise from top left: *Promenade*, *Music Box*, *Saviors of the Uniworm*, *White Lamb/Black Sheep*, *Refined Taste*.



GET KUKULED

Kukula paints girls as if they matured from Kewpie dolls and grew sad.

In *Alice and the Caterpillar* a tantalizing, naked Alice spreads herself on top of a mushroom cap, her white hair pinned halfway up with a blue barrette. Alice's left hand rests on three red playing cards. Her right hand is holding a smoking hookah attached to the head of a small, wind-up, rabbit-like character. This is just one painting in the impressive repertoire of Kukula (a.k.a. Nataly Abramovitch).

Born in a relatively isolated village an hour north of Tel Aviv, Israel, Kukula spent half of her childhood in a rosy dream world imagining fantasies and princess characters, and the other half soaking in Holocaust stories from her elderly neighbors. "Israel has affected my artwork in the way that there's a lot of self-pity in it," the 31-year-old artist, now based in Oakland, CA, explains. "I'm a whiny person and I like to complain a lot." Peering at Kukula's most recent works, a viewer might mistake self-pity for melancholy, hopelessness, or despair.

After receiving a degree in illustra-

tion from Shenkar College of Engineering and Design in Israel, Kukula, who named herself after a minor character in a short-lived Israeli television program, moved to the Bay Area to live with her half-American, half-Israeli boyfriend, who has since become her husband. "It was obvious to me that work-wise, America would be better," Kukula says of the move. "It's a lot easier to make a living selling paintings here." Influenced by artists like Jean-Honoré Fragonard, François Boucher, and Thomas Gainsborough, Kukula says her work has a classic mind-set in that "it brings a sense to the piece—not just a feeling."

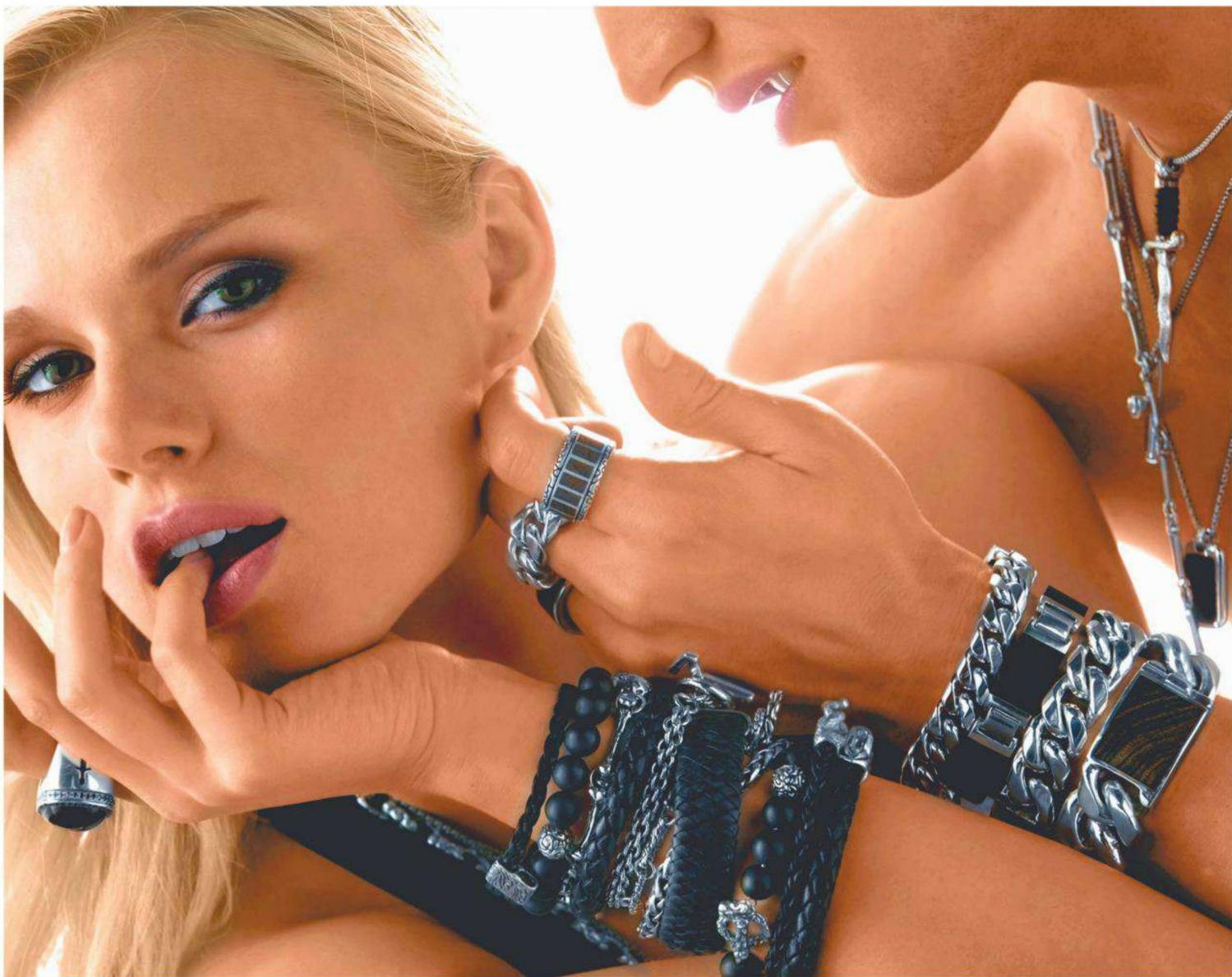
And while Kukula's exterior is a blank canvas, her acrylic on birch panel masterpieces—shown from Rome to Paris to Culver City—will live on indefinitely on the skin of her admirers, whom she hopes have chosen their tattoo artists wisely. "I like it when people tattoo my work on them. I just don't like when it comes out weird, which happens a lot." —Kara Pound

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EXQUISITE CORPSE

Threadless's Zombie at Tiffany's shirt (\$20, threadless.com) boasts a decomposing Holly Golightly replete with cigarette holder. It's available on a men's T-shirt as well.



THE BOMB JACKET

Through their pop-up mobilization units, Nike allows you to customize their classic Destroyer Jacket (nike.com) with stitching and an assortment of patches. This one belongs to Chinese celebrity Edison Chen.



HELL'S BELLS ↗

If you lift things up and put them down, then get in shape with Demon Bells (\$80 and up, demonbells.com).



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PEN PAL

Tattoo and metalworking wiz Tim Hendricks made the Ultimate Tattoo Pen Holder (\$50, saltwatertattoosupply.com) to be unbreakable and fully autoclavable.



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P R E S E N T S



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THE BREATHER

1/13 - SAYREVILLE, STARLAND BALLROOM
1/14 - BALTIMORE, SONAR (ICE JAM 2012)
1/15 - CHARLOTTE, AMOS' SOUTHERN
1/17 - CHARLESTON, MUSIC FARM
1/18 - NASHVILLE, ROCKETOWN
1/19 - ATLANTA, THE MASQUERADE
1/20 - ORLANDO, HOUSE OF BLUES
1/21 - FT. LAUDERDALE, REVOLUTION
1/22 - TAMPA, RITZ YBOR
1/23 - JACKSONVILLE, FREEBIRD LIVE
1/25 - HOUSTON, HOUSE OF BLUES
1/26 - OK CITY, DIAMOND BALLROOM
1/27 - DALLAS, HOUSE OF BLUES
1/28 - AUSTIN, EMO'S EAST

1/29 - SAN ANTONIO, WHITE RABBIT
1/31 - TUCSON, RIALTO
2/1 - LAS VEGAS, HOUSE OF BLUES
2/2 - ANAHEIM, HOUSE OF BLUES
2/3 - SAN DIEGO, HOUSE OF BLUES
2/4 - LOS ANGELES, HOUSE OF BLUES
2/5 - SAN FRANCISCO, REGENCY BALLROOM
2/7 - DENVER, SUMMIT MUSIC HALL
2/8 - SALT LAKE CITY, THE COMPLEX
2/9 - BOISE, KNITTING FACTORY
2/10 - PORTLAND, HAWTHORNE THEATRE
2/11 - SEATTLE, EL CORAZON
2/13 - CALGARY, MACLEAN HALL
2/14 - EDMONTON, EDMONTON EVENTS CENTRE

2/16 - WINNIPEG, GARRICK CENTRE
2/17 - MINNEAPOLIS, THE CABOOZE
2/18 - CHICAGO, HOUSE OF BLUES
2/21 - CINCINNATI, BOGART'S
2/22 - CLEVELAND, HOUSE OF BLUES
2/23 - DETROIT, ST. ANDREW'S
2/24 - TORONTO, GUELPH CONCERT THEATRE
2/25 - TORONTO, SOUND ACADEMY
2/26 - MONTREAL, METROPOLIS
2/27 - CLINTON PARK, NORTHERN LIGHTS
2/29 - BOSTON, HOUSE OF BLUES
3/1 - NEW YORK, IRVING PLAZA
3/3 - PHILADELPHIA, THEATRE OF LIVING ARTS





↑
SNOW COVER

R2-D2 survived Star Wars, so then Burton's Avid Grom R2-D2 Youth Helmet (\$100, burton.com) can take on the mountain and laser fire.

—
FACE TIME

Mr. Jones's The Last Laugh Tattoo Watch (\$200, watchismo.com) was illustrated by British tattoo artist Adrian Willard, and its top and bottom teeth rotate to serve as the hour and minute hands.



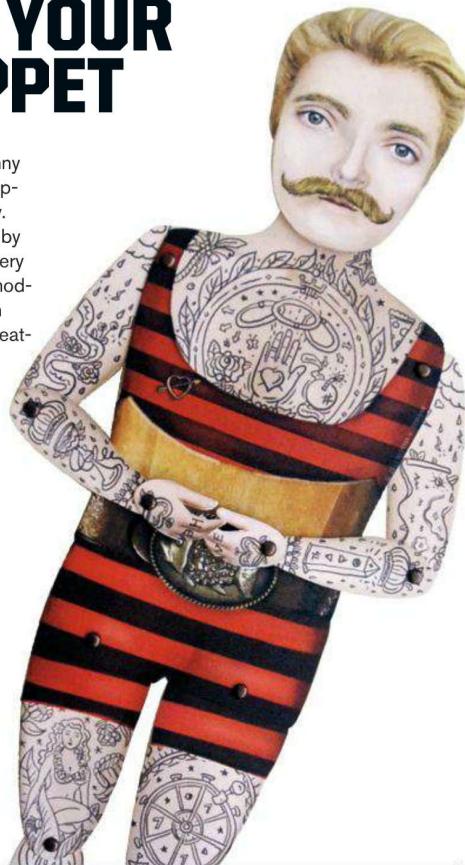
→
BAG OF BONES

This canvas bag with leather straps comes from the John Varvatos Star USA line (\$150, johnvarvatos.com) and looks like the remains of Max Headroom.



→
I'M YOUR PUPPET

This Victorian Tattooed Johnny Boy Paper Puppet (\$20, etsy.com) created by Crankbunny very well may be modeled after Ron Swanson's great-grandfather.



→
CLASH

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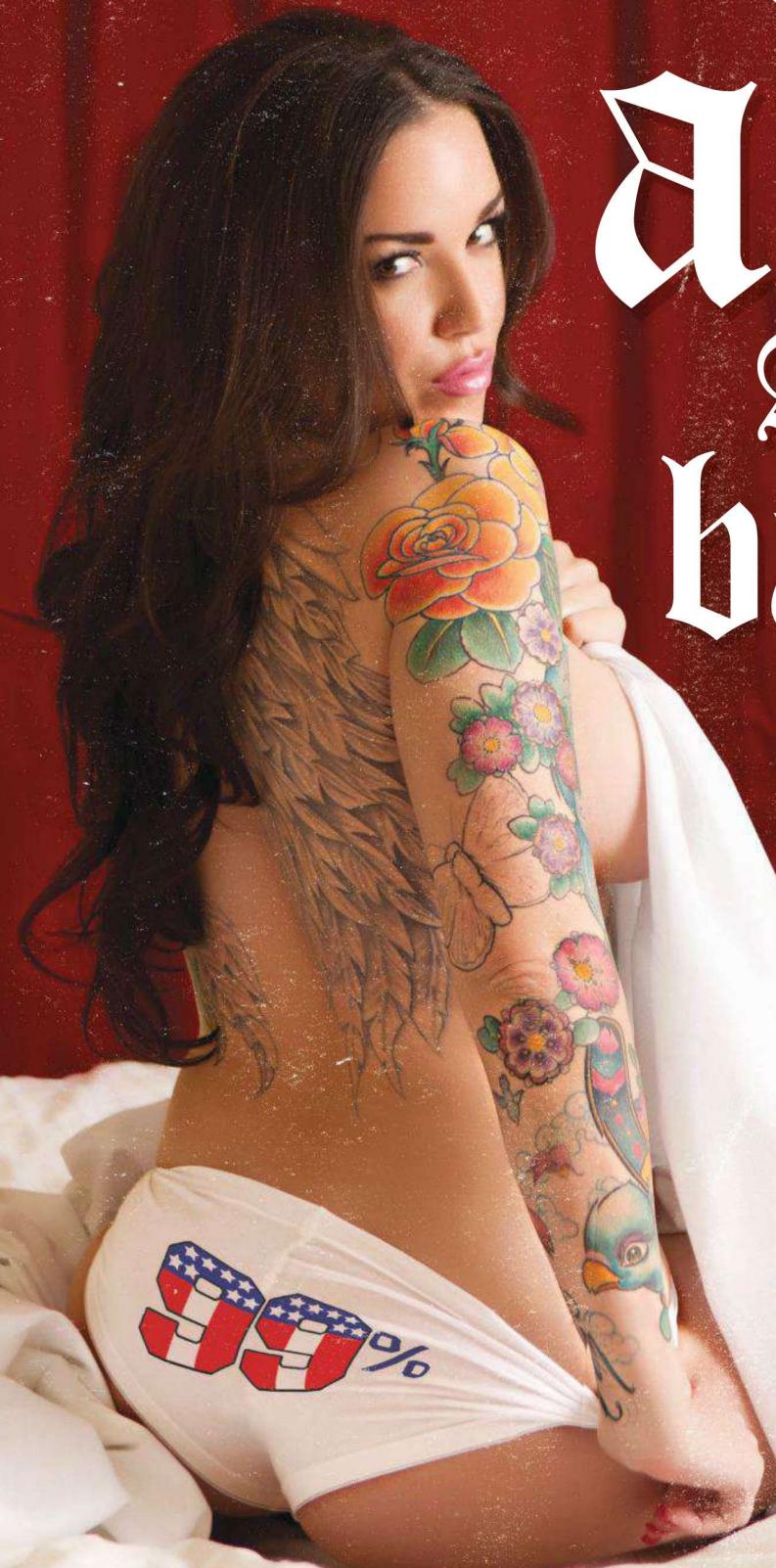
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INK ON THE STREET

SUBJECT: Francis Palumbo

SPOTTED: Chelsea, New York City

WHERE HE GETS INKED: My left arm is a collection of bold and simple images with broad meanings that I've collected from different shops and artists over the past few years while traveling. I got each of the tattoos when I had enough money to go to someone I respected, such as Eli Quinters, Marco Cerretelli, Dan Santoro, Steve Tiberi, and Sam Hambrick. I told them what I was thinking, and let them do their thing.

WHAT HE'S WEARING: Glamour Kills T-shirt and jacket.

BRAND BACKSTORY: Fashion doesn't always have to be so serious. Glamour Kills started off in the suburban basement of Mark Capicotto's parents with a few quirky T-shirts, including his signature flying pig design. His mantra was—and is—that you can make rock 'n' roll T-shirts that aren't all black, that you can make a fashion statement by screaming it across your clothes, and that pigs can, in fact, fly.

WHAT ELSE HE'S WEARING: Brixton belt, AllSaints jeans, and J Shoes boots.



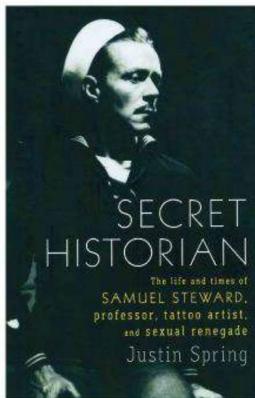
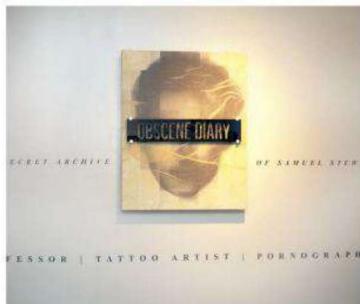


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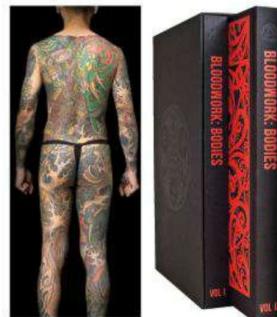
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BOOK



BOOK



TWO SECRET LIVES

Samuel Steward was a popular Chicagoan English professor in the 1930s and '40s. He was also a closeted gay man who chronicled his many encounters on index cards for sex researcher Alfred Kinsey—and an equally closeted after-hours tattoo artist. As Justin Spring recounts in his engaging *Secret Historian: The Life and Times of Samuel Steward, Professor, Tattoo Artist, and Sexual Renegade* (and in his exhibition "Obscene Diary" at the Museum of Sex, in New York City), Steward had long dreamed of combining his artistic interest in design and his sexual interest in street toughs and sailors. In 1953, he secretly began studying manuals such as Albert Parry's *Tattoo: Secrets of a Strange Art as Practiced Among the Natives of the United States* and visiting "old masters" such as Amund Dietzel in Milwaukee and Clement John "Pop" Eddy in San Francisco. He also began searching for

a mechanized needle—a scarcity because anyone with an extra didn't want the competition—and found one with the help of a wino named Tattooed Larry. Finally, in November 1954, the wiry intellectual, now calling himself Phil Sparrow, began taking customers in his cage at the Sportland Arcade on State Street in Chicago. Steward/Sparrow's work became so popular that *Chicago* magazine ran a photo story on "the ancient art of Professor Phillip Sparrow." After being fired, as expected, Steward began tattooing full-time and in 1964 moved to Oakland, CA, to open the Anchor Tattoo Shop, where he taught Ed Hardy and inked Hell's Angels. After three robberies, the aging artist left the trade and supported himself writing gay porn novels. Steward died on December 31, 1993, and the details of his amazing life remained hidden in a friend's attic until Spring stumbled upon them. —Chip Rowe

SUIT UP

Photographer Max Dolberg and tattoo artist Adrian Lee spent four years capturing the work of master tattoo artists across five continents. The result is the newest installment in their BloodWork series: *Bodies*, a two-volume set that features 119 back pieces and bodysuits and weighs in at 27 pounds (\$280, analogtattoo.com). The limited-edition run of 1,200 showcases the artistry of Tin-Tin, Filip Leu, Horiyoshi III, and the rest of the best in the world. —Robert McCormick

MOVIES



GHOST RIDER: SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE

Directing duo Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor (the *Crank* franchise) step behind the lens for this sequel that brings back Nicolas Cage as Johnny Blaze, a.k.a. Ghost Rider, Marvel Comic's popular supernatural antihero. This time, the fiery skull-headed biker is hiding out in Europe when he's called upon to stop the Devil from taking human form. The first flick was a huge upset to Marvel fans, but this one supposedly cranks up the action. The CG effects are more polished and, better yet, Cage's ridiculous hairpiece is gone. —Gilbert Macias

THIS MEANS WAR

Tattooed dude of the moment Tom Hardy (*Inception*, *Warrior*) and Chris Pine (*Star Trek*) star in this romantic-action-comedy as two CIA operatives and best friends who find out the hard way that they are dating the same woman (played by Reese Witherspoon). The two make a truce and agree to continue dating her, stay out of each other's way, and let fate decide. But the truce is soon broken and the competition gets crazy when they both put their spy skills to work and use high-tech gadgetry to sabotage each other. The illustrious McG (*Terminator Salvation*) directs. —G.M.

HAYWIRE

Steven Soderbergh directs this action-thriller that has one hell of a cast: Channing Tatum, Michael Fassbender, Ewan McGregor, Michael Douglas, Antonio Banderas, Bill Paxton, and Gina Carano. Carano plays a beautiful, ex-military freelance covert operative who takes on assignments from shadowy governments. After an operation in Barcelona goes sour, she discovers she was double-crossed and is now the target of a worldwide manhunt. Hard to kill and on the run, she tries to figure out why she was betrayed and exacts some well-deserved revenge along the way. —G.M.

DVD



BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD:

THE MIKE JUDGE COLLECTION, VOLUME 4

Oh, the '90s. There was flannel, but also Beavis and Butt-Head! After being gone far too long, the beloved, foul-mouthed couch-potato critics—and creations of Mike Judge—made a triumphant return to MTV this past October. So much has changed since their debut; they still mock music videos, but now modern pop culture, reality TV, and the internet are also victims of the duo's hilarious commentary. All the new episodes are on this set (also available in Blu-ray). Now if we could only get a sequel to *Beavis and Butt-Head Do America*. —G.M.

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VIDEO GAMES



KINGDOMS OF AMALUR: RECKONING

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, PC

What do baseball legend Curt Schilling, comic book icon Todd McFarlane, and fantasy writer R.A. Salvatore all have in common? The celebrity trio supervised the creation of this expansive role-playing game. Reckoning combines the vastness of the Elder Scrolls series with the fast-paced and brutal combat of God of War. After waking up in a pile of corpses, your character is back from the dead and living outside the rules of destiny. You can burn right through the Salvatore-penned story if you wish, but the true charm lies in writing your own story as you explore the vast landscape, clear out dangerous dungeons, and learn powerful new skills. **Play If You Like:** Spawn, the *Forgotten Realms* novels, Fable —Matt Bertz



SSX

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360

Sick of winter already? Pass the time by racing an avalanche to the bottom of an intimidating mountain. This popular extreme snowboarding series returns with a collection of the most dangerous slopes yet, including the windy Himalayas and the rocky Andes. These aren't just weak-ass artistic renderings of the dangerous ranges, either. EA used NASA topographical data to chart the regions and capture every fresh shoot and rocky ridge—untamed wilderness most snowboarders are too scared (or smart) to tackle. In celebration of the extreme undertaking, big mountain boarder Travis Rice joins the familiar cast of returning faces, and a new trick system gives you ample air to clear dangerous rockslides. **Play If You Like:** Tony Hawk's Pro Skater, *The Art of Flight*, the X Games —M.B.



STAR WARS: THE OLD REPUBLIC

PLATFORM: PC

Famed RPG developer BioWare is tapping into the never-ending pool of *Star Wars* fan enthusiasm in a bold attempt to dethrone the MMORPG juggernaut World of Warcraft. Attracting gamers away from the most popular game on the planet won't be easy, but this deep, branching narrative complete with spoken dialogue is a great place to start. Set thousands of years before Vader squandered away an Empire to his persistent son, The Old Republic's era is known for its epic Jedi-versus-Sith light saber battles, prolific bounty hunting, space exploration, and Han Solo-style smuggling. Once you pick your allegiance—Sith or Galactic Republic—it's time to create your starship, recruit some furry companions, and conquer a galaxy far, far away. **Play If You Like:** Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic, World of Warcraft, Star Wars: Galaxies —M.B.



THE Inked PLAYLIST

BY JONAH BAYER

CAVEMAN

"My Time"

Brooklyn, NY, is known as an indie rock mecca because of bands like Caveman who continue to push the genre's conventions.

MANNEQUIN MEN

"Flying Blind"

Listening to this, the words *cathartic* and *captivating* instantly come to mind.

THE DEAR & DEPARTED

"One in a Million"

On his latest release, LA Ink's Dan Smith sees his band crafting honest songs that are made for radio.

NADA SURF

"When I Was Young"

Nada Surf channel the ghost of Arthur Russell on this expansive track that's pure pop perfection.

MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK

"Wait So Long"

Motion City Soundtrack prove they can make even a cover song sound reassuringly familiar.

SHEARWATER

"Animal Life"

This Texas-based indie rock act weave an expansive sonic tapestry.

OFFICE OF FUTURE PLANS

"Salamander"

Former Jawbox/Burning Airlines frontman J. Robbins crafts another post-hardcore masterpiece.

THE JEALOUS SOUND

"Your Eyes Were Shining"

The emo icons are back and sound better than ever on this long-awaited tune.



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SMOOTH OPERATOR

Protect your canvas.

You've mastered the art of the shower. Kudos. Still, there's a major skin care step you're likely skipping. The largest organ on your body (no need to Google, we're talking about your skin) requires more TLC than the standard wash-and-go. "Anytime you use soap, yes, you're doing a good thing by getting rid of all the grime that builds up on your skin," says New York City physician David J. Ores, M.D. "But the harsh detergents that strip this dirt also strip the skin of its natural oils, drying it out." It's a bad situation that only gets worse during the winter: Cold air naturally holds less moisture than warm air, so your skin is subjected to an overall drier environment anytime you're outside, he explains.

Holing up inside isn't a solution, since most buildings use dry heat, another skin-moisture-sucker. It's a dastardly combo and the results aren't pretty—we're talking flaky, scaly skin better suited for a resident of the herpetarium than an established and well-groomed gentleman such as yourself. Thankfully, as with most things in life, dry skin is easily remedied with a few hits from the bottle ... of lotion. "You really don't need anything expensive; just look for something that contains emollients, ingredients that help strengthen the skin barrier so moisture doesn't escape," explains Dr. Ores. Once you find one you like, the rest is easy; just rub on a liberal dose all over your face, body, or hands after you wash. Read on for some lubes we like. —Christine Avalon

NIVEA FOR MEN REVITALIZING COQ10 SPF 15



Cover your mug and tattoos with this lightweight moisturizer (\$9, drugstores) after your morning shower. It hydrates skin and, more importantly, wards off the sun's ink-damaging rays.

LUBRIDERM MEN'S SPORT DEODORIZING LOTION



This new lotion (\$9, drugstores) does double duty, keeping you smooth while stopping stank with odor-blocking technology.

PALMER'S COCOA BUTTER FORMULA MEN'S BODY & FACE LOTION



Ladies have been using this classic (\$5, drugstores) for years, and now there's a version for men. Its rich shea butter helps heal cracked skin, especially elbows and knees.

YU-BE MOISTURIZING SKIN CREAM



This Japanese import (\$16, yu-be.com) uses glycerin to add maximum moisture without greasiness; the portable tube makes it a good take-with-you option.



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INDIANAPOLIS

Indiana's capital is host to the Super Bowl, and they have stepped up their game for the honor. Find out where Naptowners chill.



Monte Agee is acclaimed for his vivid, painterly style of tattooing. His art form brought him to Indianapolis 16 years ago, and since then he's witnessed the city's transformation into a regional persona. "The city is on its up and up; it's constantly changing," says Agee, who works at Artistic Skin Designs Inc. (4955 W. Washington St.). Let Agee help you navigate Indy. —Nick Fierro



• MOST AUTHENTIC THAI With galleries, shops, and restaurants, the Fountain Square district is gaining momentum as a destination for cultural connoisseurs. But even with all the great food, wholly authentic Siam Square (936 Virginia Ave.) still manages to stand out. The menu features something for everyone, including plenty of vegetarian options like veggie tempura and fried bananas. "I would suggest the drunken noodles to anyone," says Agee.

• BEST GASTRO PUB Tucked away in the Mass Ave. Arts District, Black Market (922 Massachusetts Ave.) is a hip hole in the wall with elevated pub grub. Its diner-friendly, ever-evolving menu features cider mussels, Welsh rarebit, and buttermilk fried quail. Whether you're looking for the perfect beer to pair with your schnitzel, grabbing egg on toast for lunch, or looking for a hiding spot away from the main drag, the Black Market is a must—just look for the black awning.

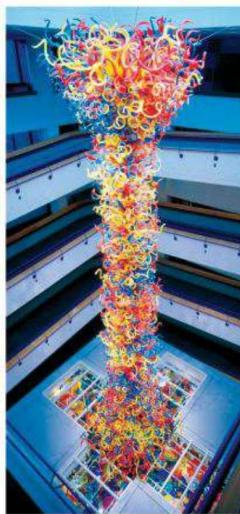


• ANIMAL COLLECTIVE "A season pass is a must-have," says Agee of the Indianapolis Zoo (1200 W. Washington St.), a front-runner in conservation and research since 1964. Nestled within the White River State Park, the zoo boasts some of the rarest desert reptiles on the planet, as well as world-class ocean, forest, and plains biomes. The sanctuary was the first to successfully breed an African elephant through artificial insemination.



• SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS

Children's Museum of Indianapolis (3000 N. Meridian St.) is a cultural staple of Indianapolis that's been collecting artifacts from the community and abroad for more than 80 years. Host to seasonal exhibits as well as larger-than-life mainstays such as the Dinosphere, the museum is a place for families to gain a new perspective on cultural history, natural history, and science. The museum has five levels of interactive exhibits that Agee calls "immaculate." Go expand you mind.



• DOUGHNUTS TO DIE FOR

Serving as the comfort food oasis in Indy, Long's Bakery (1453 N. Tremont St.) is a staple for day-to-day cravings and special occasions alike. "This was the doughnut I was introduced to when I started tattooing in Indiana almost 16 years ago," says Agee. Although the line is typically out the door, it's worth waiting for the confections. Don't miss the warm yeast doughnut, a local favorite.

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PARADISE BY THE DASHBOARD LIGHT

Check out these backseats that make getting busy even better.

Few things exist in this world that make one feel more alive than an old-fashioned backseat hookup—although it's hard to say why. The space is cramped and awkward and there's very little room to cuddle afterward. Plus, there's no bigger mood killer than trying to find your pants while a cop is tapping on your fogged-up window. Still, despite the conditions, the trend shows no signs of slowing down.

Way back when, you were lucky to get a little in the back of your parents' Datsun, but the times have changed and it's time to elevate your game—no, we're not talking about working on technique or pillow talk. Submitted for your pleasure: a row of rides with roomy carriages. Make sure the e-brake is engaged. —*Nick Fierro*

2012 DODGE CHARGER SRT8 This luxury sedan can go from 0 to 60 in 4.6 seconds and generates a whopping 470 horsepower and 470 lb-ft of torque with its 6.4-liter V8 engine. The American classic gets an overhaul for 2012 while remaining a well-crafted, iconic classic. All that aside, the suede upholstery and heated seats will cradle you like a full-body hand warmer on those chilly Friday nights at Suck Face Point.

2012 NISSAN GT-R The GT-R is the perfect car for anyone who's got a hot date a quarter mile away and only 11.2 seconds to get there. The GT-R's exterior hasn't changed much, but it's been given a boost under the hood with a twin turbocharged V6 that reaches 530 horsepower and 448 lb-ft of torque. That being said, you and your sweetheart will be sharing the backseat with a center-mounted console that has embedded speakers, so pop in your best mix tape and let Peter Gabriel or Marvin Gaye serenade you.

2012 KIA SOUL The Kia Soul is a sleek, minimalist execution of the classic hatchback. Don't let its size fool you; this 1.6-liter, 4-cylinder Soul packs a punch, with a 13 percent increase in horsepower over last year. The 2012's fuel economy has also been boosted by 10 percent, getting 35 miles to the gallon (highway). With its low sticker price and decent gas mileage, maybe you could put aside some cash for a nice dinner and then jump into the surprisingly spacious rear to have some fun without breaking the bank.

KIA KV7 CONCEPT CAR Kia released a few teasers about this car throughout the year before unveiling it at the 2011 Detroit Auto Show. The futuristic, boxy minivan has four individual swivel seats, a countertop, and a bench seat along the passenger side. A 2-liter GDI Turbo Petrol lends 285 horsepower to the KV7, and the distinct gull-wing door allows easy access to a cozy interior that's a far cry from the dusty mattress in your weird cousin's shaggin' wagon.

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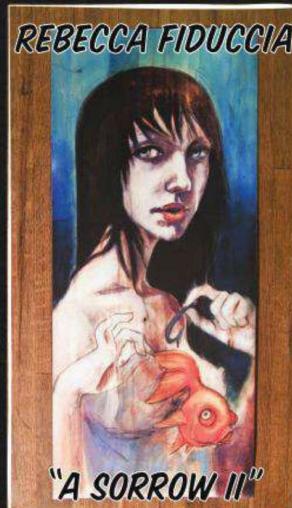
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"TATTOOS ARE SEXY. I LIKE THE WAY THEY ENHANCE THE BODY AND GIVE GUYS AND GIRLS AN EDGE." –JOANNA ANGEL



JOANNA ANGEL

For those with a predilection for tattooed women, there is no person—now or ever—more important in the adult entertainment industry than Joanna Angel. Leading by example, the pink-haired powerhouse built Burning Angel, the porn empire that features our type of women. "In college, a friend and I were brainstorming what to do with our lives. I just knew I wanted to work for myself, and for some reason we decided to start a porn site," she says. "Up until then I was pretty shy and reserved. I had never even watched porn. Once, I was at a horror convention and saw a huge line of people waiting to meet Traci Lords and I turned to my friend and asked, 'Who is that?' But doing a porn sounded like fun to me. It just felt like two friends working on a project—like a band or something."

The part of her personality that derived a thrill from the outlaw world of tattooing is the same part that compelled her to immerse herself in the adult entertainment world. "Both tattoos and porn were taboo then, and to some they still are," Angel says. "But they were subcultures that were growing and gaining acceptance, so that helped me gain success as a tattooed porn star."

Burningangel.com swiftly became a juggernaut. Featuring photos of Angel and her friends, it was the gold standard in a newly formed genre called *alt porn*. "I don't like labels, but if they had to, I would have preferred *punk porn*," says Joanna, essentially the Hugh Hefner of the category.

Of the tattoos that are omnipresent on the site, she says, "Tattoos are sexy. I've become somewhat of a snob about them. I like the way they enhance the body and give guys and girls an edge." When Angel talks about edge she is referring to a person's personality, not his or her threshold for perversion. "There

was a time when all porn was pushing the limits and getting pretty extreme," she recounts. "We gave it a shot and put some hardcore stuff up. We lost members—they didn't want to see that happening to girls they cared about."

And that's the magic of Burning Angel: It's not just a website, it's a community. Angel has created a 360-degree experience with more than clips and libraries to sift through; there are also homepages for the stars, blogs, video chats, cams, and even events. Her current obsession is the production of more thoughtful videos. "I want you to enjoy the experience and watch the whole film rather than just skipping to the juicy parts," she says. "My mind is always working on the quality of Burning Angel, and it's always in the gutter."

Being the CEO as well as a star herself, Angel has the ability to connect with her girls. "I actually still get nervous before every shoot that I do," she admits. And, like many of the Burning Angels, her involvement in front of the camera makes it difficult to date or "be a picket-fence housewife." But when there is someone in her life, that person will reap the benefits. "I'll learn something new on set and if I'm dating someone I can't wait to try it on them," she says.

That's Angel: a pleaser and a promoter. She wants whomever she's dating, her Burning Angels, and her fans to be satisfied. She also wants to give credit where it's due—namely to Grant Cobb at Spotlight Tattoo in Los Angeles, who does most of her work, including the new Statue of Liberty tattoo she has. And, of course, she wants everyone to know that tattooed girls are sexier and have more depth than regular girls. As she puts it, "Who's more interesting: Britney Spears or Marilyn Manson?" —Rocky Rakovic



DARREN HARPER

Darren Harper is the quintessential street skater in that he has chops and is from rough-and-tumble Savannah Terrace in Washington, D.C. "In the hood, because of poverty, lots of evictions go down and people's stuff gets thrown out in the streets," Harper begins the story of how he started skateboarding. "It was 1989, I was 9, and me and my partners were roaming around when we saw some things piled up on the street—that's how I got my first skateboard. There were no skate parks around me, so I'd go find ledges to grind and stack up car tires to ollie." Or, to escape his neighborhood, he'd kick and push on his board toward downtown District.

Then junior high school hit. Like many teens, he did something he shouldn't have because of peer pressure and the allure of the opposite sex: He gave up skating. "Guys in the hood would say, 'What are you doing? Skating's a white boy sport. You don't see any black brothers on skateboards; you should be playing basketball,'" he recounts. "Plus I was getting involved with females, and they considered someone who skated soft." So he ditched the board and did cool-guy stuff like pushing cocaine and getting into shoot-outs. By the time he was 21 his world was crashing in on him; he needed to make a change—and fast.

One night, Harper was talking to the mother of his son about what they were into before the shadiness, and when he said skating she was confounded but urged him to revisit the sport. "So I went down to the magazine store and in the magazine I saw all these professional skateboarders getting free products," he says. "I wanted some too so I got back on the board."

Harper put in work. As a skater, his style is smooth and he punctuates his ride with high ollies. "I call myself the King of Pop," he says. Other skaters have called him Michael Jordan on a skateboard from the height he gets. His hops have garnered him the endorsements that he visualized and trips out of the ghetto and around the country to put them on display. "I got all my tattoos on tour," Harper says. "The first was my son's mother's name that I got on my right forearm in California. And they all mean something to me. Rappers made tattooing bad because they just go out and get shit—I believe tattoos should tell who a person is. My next tattoo is going to be a tombstone with 20, 30 of my dead friends' names under it." Currently he has a skateboard on his right biceps; "God's Plan" on his pectoral muscle ("because he put [skating] on the table for me"); and "Skate or Die" ("because without skating I couldn't escape ghetto life"). But he hasn't truly left the hood; he moved just down the street, and his skate videos feature guys playing dice, buying gold chains, and holding automatic weapons.

When the Maloof Money Cup came to Harper's city for the first time, the organizers picked him to host because, as he says, "I'm the Obama of skateboarding in D.C. They saw my hustle and they built a major skate park near the hood." Harper also is giving back to his community by speaking to schools and getting neighborhood children into skating. "I want to be a positive role model and tell kids that they can follow their dreams," he says. "When I was their age I was legitimately told that I couldn't skate." —Rocky Rakovic



TRISTAN TAORMINO

Feminist Tristan Taormino has been making sex her business since the '90s, working as a writer, sex educator, and director. The 40-year-old resident of Hudson Valley, NY, known for her groundbreaking book *The Ultimate Guide to Anal Sex for Women*, is the creator of Vivid-Ed (tagline: "sex ed for a new generation"). The series' videos may be titillating, but their true purpose is to make sure viewers are getting good advice. "People want to learn skills and techniques and you have to show them in explicit ways," she explains. "I knew if I was going to do a sex-ed line, it would be hard-core." She's also helmed several less educational adult films (one featuring Sasha Grey) in which she allowed her female stars to pick their male costars and come up with their own edgy scenarios to act out.

Up next is *The Ultimate Guide to Kink*, a book due out next month that will cover topics such as bondage, spanking, role play, and "how to train a sex slave." According to Taormino, "There really hasn't ever been a book where people talk about what it means to be a submissive or to be someone's slave." And she's pleased that what was once more of a subculture is now becoming accessible. "There's an SM support group or educational event everywhere, from Oklahoma to Portland. It's as easy as Googling *BDSM* and

the name of your city," she says.

Taormino has two tattoos, a tribal armband and a scorpion that spans her thigh and wraps around her back (it's a tribute to her Scorpio father). Her next will be a tribute to two of her beloved dogs who passed away in 2011. "There's this bittersweetness; I'm commemorating the death of these important animals and people in my life, but on the other hand, when I think about my dad and my dogs, they make me happy."

As for her thoughts on tattoos in the sex industry, she credits the alt porn movement—including Burning Angel and Suicide Girls—for kick-starting their acceptance. "They celebrated women who were tattooed and pierced as beautiful, gorgeous sex symbols. In the '90s there was this one kind of California girl-next-door aesthetic—big boobs and blond hair and blue eyes—and that's not how porn is anymore," Taormino says. In fact, she believes it would be hard these days to come up with a list of 10 stars who aren't tattooed. "For me, tattoos are part of what makes a performer sexy. My very favorite performer, Adrianna Nicole, has awesome tattoos on her legs and one on her thigh and butt. I can't imagine her body without them." —*Rachel Kramer Bussel*



inked GIRL

PHOTOS BY
WARWICK SAINT

PAGE 46





The Family Jewels
fox fur wrap;
L.A.M.B. heels; R.J.
Graziano ring.

Previous Page:
Pologeorgis fox boa;
Wendy Mink ring.



even in the loose world of pornography, girls with tattoos are stigmatized; an inked adult actress is thought to be kinkier and wilder than those typical blondes who have enhanced their looks in other ways. Then there's Riley Jensen, a nice, simple, straight-laced woman who just happens to like sex enough to make a living out of doing it on camera. She also likes country and rap music, Thai and Mexican cuisine, and water sports ... the wholesome kind.

Jensen has been in the adult industry for two and a half years. After working three jobs in high school, including a nanny position and a gig at Best Buy, Jensen and a friend decided to give the adult industry a shot. And it should be noted that Jensen only films with girls. "I knew I was bisexual since I was 14," she says. "Lesbian porn is what I watch, and I make enough to not do boy-girl and save my body

from the hard-core stuff."

At 22 years old, Jensen doesn't plan on stopping anytime soon. "I have goals; I want to see how far I can go," says the star, who wants to launch a lingerie line for petite women next year and eventually head back to school and start her own business. "People have a judgmental view of porn, thinking it's this crazy fucking lifestyle. Don't get me wrong, I love to have fun and party, but I keep myself levelheaded."

Jensen's been a Cali girl her whole life, but has done her share of sightseeing, from Paris to Alaska and Hawaii, where she fell in love with the hibiscus flowers that are now inked around her wrist. She got her first tattoo at 18 and in three years has filled up a sleeve, her rib, neck, and knuckles, which say "Love Ink." A back piece is next: "I'm trying to figure it out, because I want it to be as beautiful and colorful as my sleeve."

Although her choice of occupation is rakish, Jensen tries to keep everything else around her con-

ventional. "In this industry, most of the girls only hang out with those in business. I have a diverse circle of friends. Some are normal civilians, some are religious, and most of them don't even do porn."

Her body ink is a map to the important people in her life, mostly done by David Tower and Terry Minatre. Her largest tattoo, a lighthouse inside her arm, represents her mom, who's an avid collector of lighthouse figurines and was diagnosed with cancer three years ago. A lipstick tube has her sister's name, and a few hummingbirds around her body are dedicated to her best friends. "I didn't have a relationship with my parents for a while. They weren't happy with what I was doing, but they're there for me now," she says. In fact, her divorced parents are the inspiration for her favorite tattoo, which says "True Love Never Dies" across the side of her body. Jensen's first tattoo was "La Bella Vita" on her foot, and it's a motto she never forgets: "As fucked up as it is, mine is a beautiful life." —Nadia Kadri





EMPIRE HOTEL NEW YORK

You might not have recognized this hotel's interior, but you do know it. It's been a posh place on Manhattan's Upper West Side since it opened over a hundred years ago, way before they put up their staggering neon Empire Hotel sign alerting those headed downtown that they needn't go any further. As recently as five years ago the décor looked a bit different, but the hotspot updated its digs while keeping its classic cool. Speaking of temperature, if you are around New York City this summer you'd be hard-pressed to find a better pool deck. Just head toward Lincoln Center and look for that big, beautiful neon sign.

Stylist: Xina Giatas

Hair: Dan Sharp, Lead Stylist for T3 at dankapanka.com

Makeup: Emily Kate Warren for emilykatewarren.com

Location: Empire Hotel New York
Pologeorgis fox jacket; Wendy Mink ring.



HARD CORE SEX

PUNK ICON FAT MIKE, OF NOFX, AND HIS DOMINATRIX GIRLFRIEND,
SOMA SNAKEOIL, WELCOME YOU INTO THEIR PLAYPEN.

BY CHARLIE CONNELL
PORTRAITS BY MAGDALENA WOSINSKA
STILL PHOTOS BY MICHAEL KRAUS
PAGE 52



When you find out a secret about somebody—dirty, little, or otherwise—your brain synthesizes the new information by running it against the profile you have of the subject to see if the information matches up. Prepare to drop your coffee mug à la Detective Kujan in *The Usual Suspects*: “Fat Mike” Burkett—the guy who wrote the lyrics “So stay in your missionary position/I hope that you get bored to death/There's no way I'm going through life/Having vanilla sex,” the guy who has a lady with a whip inked on his arm, and the same one whose band's second (albeit forgotten) studio album was entitled *S&M Airlines*—is into sexual submission.

Yes, the NOFX frontman is even dating gorgeous professional dominatrix Soma Snakeoil—which is so punk rock. He wears the ball gag but he also wears the pants (when he's wearing pants).

NOFX is still making albums and touring, and Mike's label, Fat Wreck Chords, is going gangbusters. But away from music, he has been active in politics and linguistics, recently coining the term (immortalized on urban dictionary.com) *nawsome*, an adjective meaning *not awesome*. He has also been busy creating a pornographic film with Soma called *Rubber Bordello*.

Plenty of musicians have made forays into the world of adult videos—Snoop Dogg and Tommy Lee come to mind—but none in the way that Fat Mike has with this project. In most circumstances it's more of a cash grab than anything else, where the artist loans his name and face along with a song or two to a standard porno. For Mike and Soma, *Rubber Bordello* was a labor of love, and it strives to be something that porn and fetish films rarely become: a work of art. There are thousands of fetish films that get made by bringing together a camera and crew and saying, “Go,” but the goal of *Rubber Bordello* was to do things differently. “We wanted to make a film that is more elaborate, different, and has a whole different aesthetic, both visually and audio-wise, than any other fetish film,” Mike explains.

Soma elaborates: “So we made a black-and-white silent smut film with a ragtime soundtrack.”

songs over the years. Chord progressions are chord progressions; music is music. I'm a sucker for a Louis Armstrong, people who have had good songs,” he explains. Written with a piano player and recorded with studio musicians, the soundtrack is “really fun music, and that's what you want in a movie,” says Mike, who hopes viewers understand the effort that was put into it. “You don't want the songs to take over. I think they really work well together,” he adds.

THE JOURNEY TO BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL DOMINATRIX WAS A STRANGE AND EXCITING ONE for Soma. “My parents were God-smuggler missionaries in former communist countries. I spent time living on the street, time really exploring drugs and counterculture and punk rock, many years working in high-end restaurants in the D.C.–Virginia area, and time working as a stripper in a small military town in Kansas,” Soma recalls. “Through all my adventures the constant has been my love of eroticism.” By being able to channel that love into her persona and her career, she says she's found happiness. “Becoming a professional dominatrix was when I really began to live my life exactly as I pleased.”

Mike says he's been attracted to the BDSM lifestyle since he first started watching porn. “It's just how I'm wired. I've always been attracted to punk rock chicks in leather with that look on their face that says, I'm either going to kill you or fuck you.” His attraction even goes back to his teenage years and a girlfriend he had then. “She was all about scratching my back until it bled, and we used to choke each other all the time,” he remembers. “So that's really doing S&M but you really aren't sure what it is yet.”

It's interesting to see the way Soma and Mike are able to balance their lives as a dominatrix and punk icon with the responsibilities that come from parenthood. Since the two live together, and both are parents, one imagines it would be difficult to find the time to explore the BDSM side of their relationship. “We're normal people,” Mike says without irony. “Most parents, they go out to dinner and a movie; we go out to our dungeon. It totally works. I don't even think it's weird. During our normal life we get up at 7 and get the kids ready for school.”

“I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ATTRACTED TO PUNK ROCK CHICKS IN LEATHER WITH THAT LOOK ON THEIR FACE THAT SAYS, I'M EITHER GOING TO KILL YOU OR FUCK YOU.” -FAT MIKE

In this era, it certainly seems bizarre to have a silent film of any sort. But maybe it's a perfect fit for pornography. “You can watch porn with the sound off—and a lot of people do when they don't want someone to hear. You don't really need to hear the moaning,” jokes Mike.

Written and directed by Soma, *Rubber Bordello* takes place in an early 1900s whorehouse and attempts to re-create the bygone era in the way that it was shot. It's a time period that has always been of particular interest to Soma; when she chose her name she looked to both literature and to a staple of the early 1900s, the snake oil salesman. “I picked Soma as a reference to the drug that controls the masses in *Brave New World*—maybe some grandiose thinking on my part—and paired it with Snakeoil, referring to the cultural icons of misrepresentation,” she explains. “Snake oil was a Chinese medicine for joint pain but became associated with the quacks who sold questionable tinctures to cure just about anything.” She expounds: “I like to think of my performances as an erotic sideshow full of freaks, fire-breathing sluts, and me as the Snakeoil Salesman peddling questionable smutty pictures, movies, and ideas.”

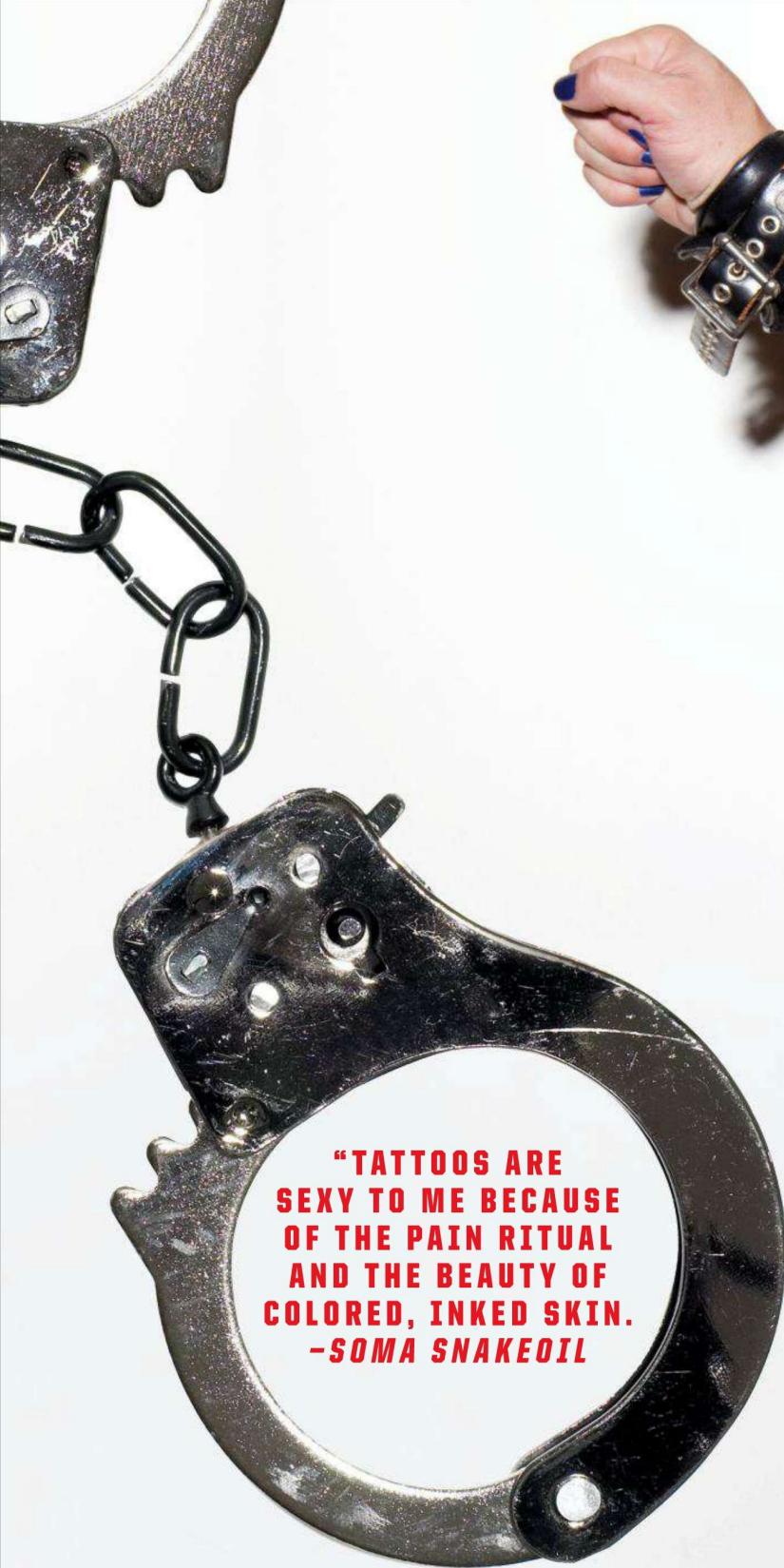
In order to perfect the feel of a 1900s silent film, Mike wrote his own ragtime soundtrack. Adult film soundtracks have never had much thought put into them, so the couple is definitely elevating the art form a bit here. “The soundtrack is a real testament to Mike's versatility as a songwriter,” lauds Soma.

At first this may seem like a bit of a departure (this past summer, NOFX released an EP of hardcore covers, which seems like the polar opposite of ragtime), but there are similarities, according to Mike. “NOFX has done a lot of jazz

While Mike knew what he wanted sexually from a very young age, it took him a lot longer to decide how to ink himself. Out of step with most of his punk peers, Mike waited until he was 34 to get his first tattoo, a golfing dominatrix done by Chris Conn. “I waited until I knew what I wanted. Those are the two passions in my life, even more than music. Well, not really, but I'm not going to have a golfing dominatrix playing guitar too. Golfing in high heels is hard enough,” Mike laughs. “If I'm not in a dungeon, I'm on a golf course,” he says, adding that the reason NOFX performed in Iceland was his urge to play midnight golf. And since no golfing dominatrix is complete without a caddie, Mike turned to Conn again. “I got the artist I really wanted for it. Chris is known for his pinup girls, so that's why I went to him,” Mike explains.

Soma also appreciates Mike's work. “The golfing dominatrix is so clever, hot, and well executed. But I have more of a fondness for the gagged maid in the back holding her golf clubs.” More than the content of the piece, though, Soma is intrigued by the process of tattooing and what it says about a person. “Tattoos are sexy to me because of the pain ritual and the beauty of colored, inked skin. People seem more interesting when they're covered with images that they feel document who they are and what's important to them,” she elaborates. Then, explaining the importance of images in *Rubber Bordello*, she says, “We really tried to combine beautiful imagery with humor, fetishism, and eroticism in a way that's accessible to people who don't usually indulge in kinky films.” In that case the first thing the novices will need to navigate their brave new sexual world is a safe word. May we suggest *nawsome*? ■





"TATTOOS ARE
SEXY TO ME BECAUSE
OF THE PAIN RITUAL
AND THE BEAUTY OF
COLORED, INKED SKIN.
-SOMA SNAKEOIL





PEEP SHOW 2.0

The hottest webcam girls—the ones with tattoos, obviously—invite you into their bedrooms.

BY ROCKY RAKOVIC
PHOTOS BY WARWICK SAINT





xoEVE

FOUND ON: xoEve.com, myfreecams.com

ACCOLADE: Nominated for Xbiz's 2012 Web Babe of the Year

TURN-ONS: Confidence, humor, and good cooks

HER PROCESS: Every time I log in I set a dollar goal I would like to make, but as long as I have fun I'm happy. I usually have a really awesome group of people that hang out with me while I cam. It's a lot more than just selling sex through a webcam; I have to enjoy it also.

HER CRAZIEST REQUEST: Oh wow—many requests I get are insane. The strangest to me are the guys that like you to abuse them and treat them like crap while they give you all of their money.

WHAT FANS THINK OF HER INK: Most of the time people love it. I get asked dozens of times a day about them. I occasionally get the "Ew, tattoos are trashy" or "You look like Kat Von D." Those people get the banhammer.

Previous page: From left, Calvin Klein bra and Affinitas Intimates underwear; Calvin Klein bra and underwear; Affinitas Intimates bra and underwear; Fleur of England bra and underwear; Verameat ring. This page: CLO Intimo bra and underwear; Sam Edelman heels.



The girls-on-film business has come a long way, quickly. Think back to the '80s and '90s, when the hottest thing on television was scrambled cable porn. Then came home internet; after your dial-up buffered for six minutes, you could ogle a racy photo. When high-speed connections arrived, anyone with a router could see highly produced, perfect bodies copulating in pristine settings with just one click. It was enticing, but there was something terribly inauthentic—and it wasn't just the silicone.

Enter the webcam. The thinking is that as soon as a new type of technology appears, the first thing people will do is find a way to have sex with it. As texting swiftly begat sexting, webcams turned into vehicles for peep shows 2.0. Webcam shows are the most intimate form of sexuality on the net; viewers aren't watching a girl gyrate on a soundstage; they're seeing her in her happy place—a place that includes her band posters, her Hello Kitty comforter, and her very own wardrobe. There is no guy holding a boom microphone and no one sitting off-screen barking orders. If you log on, you are the director; and if you're nice, you can ask the girl to act out your fantasy.

Webcams can also be better for those on the business end of the camera: "Camming allows you a lot of freedoms, like making your own schedule, being able to work in the comfort of your home, and having full control of who you communicate with," says cam girl xoEve.

Fellow internet star Kaylee Danger agrees. "I like webcamming because I can build a relationship with my fans all over the world from the privacy of their own homes."

"I was a dancer but grew tired of the club environment. I needed something to do to save up to start earning my masters, so I Googled camming," Emma Ink says. "It felt so natural. I have never hesitated or felt strange while broadcasting."

Webcamming has also given stodgy, buttoned-up folks a chance—while playing fly on the wall—to appreciate body art. xoEve says most of her onlookers are not tattooed. "A lot of people tell me they never liked tattoos before they saw me," she says.

Emma Ink uses her tattoos as her calling card. "I love when I have a clean-cut businessman type that doesn't have any tattoos confessing to me that I'm the sexiest woman alive."

Kaylee, however, doesn't see her fans, so she had to ask whether or not they had ink. "I thought there were a few ... so I started asking them, and more than I thought do have tattoos!"

But just because these women share a similar look and, possibly, some of the same fans, that doesn't mean they're competitive. "My coworkers are sexy, amazing, like-minded girls," Emma says. Let's meet the click clique.

EMMA INK

FOUND ON: epicemmaink.com

THE EMMA EXPERIENCE: I've always been sexually open and comfortable with my body. I sign on when I'm bored, when I'm upset and feel that I have no one else to talk to, or when I'm feeling frisky.

WHY SHE LIKES HER JOB: It allows me to use my real personality. I'm not acting, I don't have to fake anything, and I don't have someone telling me what to do. Many of my friends and customers don't ever pay me to take my clothes off; they like my personality, my advice, and my friendship.

HER CRAZIEST REQUEST: I had a guy ask me to dump a full jar of mayo all over my head and rub it into my hair and onto my body. I'm vegan, so unfortunately I couldn't oblige.

WHAT FANS THINK OF HER INK: People constantly call my Raichu tattoo Pikachu. Full-on arguments have broken out in my chat rooms between Pokémon nerds about how it's totally not Pikachu. Sometimes I have to regulate.

HOW CAMMING DIFFERS FROM OTHER ADULT ENTERTAINMENT: There is no cookie-cutter appearance we have to meet. I may be a little biased, but I think tattooed girls are sexier than those without ink. We're so diverse. That said, all women in porn are awesome. It's not easy to be sexually liberated in America.



Affinitas Intimates
bra and underwear;
Verameat ring;
L.A.M.B. heels.





Calvin Klein bra
and underwear;
L.A.M.B. heels.

TAYTE

FOUND ON: myfreecams.com, godsgirls.com

FAVORITE PIECE: My current favorite is my newest tattoo that I just got on my upper left arm; it is a semi-traditional Native American girl done by Adam Barton.

WHEN SHE'S NOT CAMMING: I often watch other girls on cam and find that the mellow, down-to-earth girls are the most alluring.

HOW CAMMING DIFFERS FROM OTHER ADULT ENTERTAINMENT: The experience is whatever I want. It's all my creativity and imagination and playing off my viewers' reactions and basically directing the whole thing in real time.

HER CRAZIEST REQUEST: Well, the most recent outlandish request was that I put my legs behind my head for the length of a private show—it was about 10 minutes or so. I'm pretty flexible, but that was a little much!



KAYLEE DANGER

FOUND ON: webcamclub.com, seductivestudios.com, godsgirls.com, kayleedanger.com

TURN-ON: Guys with a fetish!

WHAT FANS THINK OF HER INK: I get lots of love! Some are curious and want me to show them every single one.

THE KAYLEE EXPERIENCE: I'm just trying to have lots of fun. To keep my viewer interested I'll play games, and that leads to me naked and in a private show, where the end result is up to them.

MOST NOTABLE TATTOO: For some reason my armpit shark tattoo became popular on the internet, to the point where the picture was on *The Ellen Degeneres Show* and Adult Swim's *The Regular Show*, which did a funny spoof on it. Fans will recognize my tattoo and tell me stories about where they saw it. It's all over Google when you search shark tattoos.



NU HOTEL

This is the Brooklynest lodging ever: You can unwind by either wrapping yourself in organic sheets or relaxing in a hammock. The NU Hotel is an eco-friendly oasis that allows you to live a healthy lifestyle during your stay by offering Pilates, yoga, and bike-lending. But this is no crunchy granola lodge; it has a sleek urban aesthetic and accoutrements like complementary iPads. Just outside Manhattan, the NU Hotel straddles the neighborhoods of Cobble Hill, Brooklyn Heights, Boerum Hill, and downtown Brooklyn—where a lion's share of the city's influencers call home.



Parfait by Affinitas
underwear; Ayaka
Nishi ring.

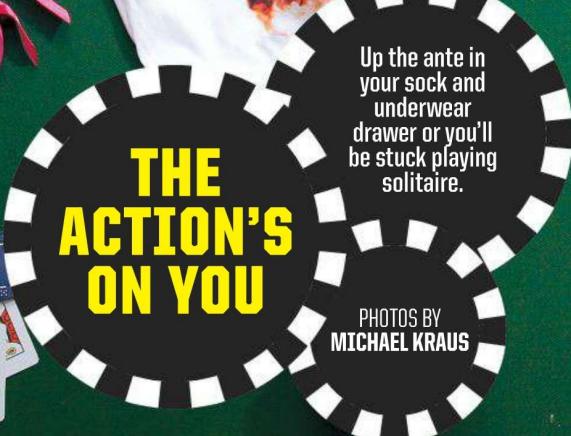
Stylist: Xina Giatas
Hair: Kevin Woon at
Woon Salon/Jed Root Inc.

Makeup: Ashleigh Ciucci
for Nars at raybrownpro.com
Location: NU Hotel

TOP PAIRS

Clockwise from top: G-Star Sport Hydro boxer briefs, shop.g-star.com; Diesel Luv boxers, nordstrom.com; French Connection Razer Light boxer briefs, select French Connection stores, fcuk.com for store locator; Toddland Cheeseburger Supreme boxer shorts, fredflare.com; CK One tattoo low-rise trunks, 877-258-7646.

Prop stylist: Anna Holmes Hurley



**THE ACTION'S
ON YOU**

PHOTOS BY
MICHAEL KRAUS

Up the ante in
your sock and
underwear
drawer or you'll
be stuck playing
solitaire.





KICKERS

Clockwise from top: Thirty-Two Bars and Stripes sock, thirtytwo.com; Psycho Bunny striped sock, psycho-bunny.com; Fred Flare Beer Sock, fredflare.com; K. Bell Flame sock, kbellsocks.com; Stance Bowie sock, stance.com; Burton Party Sock in Drunk Hunter, burton.com; Analog socks, burton.com; HUF Plantlife socks, hufworldwide.com.



CHRIS “BIRDMAN” ANDERSEN

A conversation with the colorful NBA standout who calls himself “a scary motherfucker.”

BY SAUL HUTSON PHOTOS BY DUSTIN COHEN

In a league full of freakishly tall dudes covered in tattoos, Chris “Birdman” Andersen still sticks out. Andersen earns his nickname every night, flying through the air to collect a nasty array of dunks for the Denver Nuggets. A 6’10” mix of energy, elbows, and ink, the nine-year NBA vet doesn’t just play like a rock star, he looks like one too. ¶ Fans love the Birdman’s sense of style as much as his game—the home crowd is always peppered with kids rocking mohawk wigs in tribute to his signature game-time ‘do. It’s all pretty lofty stuff considering Andersen’s long and winding road to the NBA, which included trips to the NBA’s Development League and China, as well as a two-year suspension for violating the league’s drug policy. ¶ Off the court and out of the tattoo shop Andersen has gotten heavy into hunting. The self-proclaimed redneck unwinds by tracking down wild hogs with a crossbow and is now developing a reality TV show about his adventures in the woods. Andersen met up with INKED during the NBA lockout to discuss his extended off-season, bouncing from topic to topic almost as frantically as he flies around on the basketball court.

INKED: Are you getting bored during this lock-out?

CHRIS ANDERSEN: Hell yes. I work out on the court for about an hour. I lift weights at the house for another hour and a half. Then I go run around Red Rocks for about 45 minutes to an hour. Then I go get tattooed up or shoot my bow or clean my house. I just keep myself busy so I don’t go out and do dumb stuff.

You’re also working on the creation of a reality TV show about hunting. Do you really think you can make hog hunting into must-see TV?

Hogs are fast, dude. I shot one out of a tree stand, and then on the way from the tree stand, like 100 yards in, I heard snorting. So I picked up my bow and looked and there were, like, 30 eyes looking back at us from the pitch black in the middle of the night. You have the light on them, and all you see is the green reflecting in their eyes and they’re just looking right at you. Hogs will charge you, especially a pack of hogs. So I aimed, got the yardage down with my range finder, saw it was 44 yards, found one and snuffed it. Shot right through it. It felt good, because it scared the rest of them away. They just hit the bayou and the swamp.

Like American Hoggers but with a tall dude wielding a crossbow. It’s me and my boy Willie B. [a DJ on Denver’s 106.7 KBPI]. We want to do hunting, but also tons of crazy shit. As you can see, I don’t just look the part, I play the part—two celebrity rednecks that do some crazy country-boy bullshit. We want it to be over-the-top. The networks will have no choice but to say okay.

So when did you get your first tattoo? Back in 2000, I had just gotten back from China and I wanted to get a tattoo. I did the piercing thing, but it just wasn’t my style, so I got out of that and jumped into tattoos. The first two tattoos I got were Chinese symbols on my left and right forearms, representing the good and the bad.

What was playing in China like? China really toughened me up. When I played there, they could actually still smoke in the arena as you’re playing. Some of them didn’t even have heat. You’d have a cold sweat going, you could see your breath, then you look up at the ceiling and there’s a cloud of smoke. I saw this one guy just burn one down in three or four puffs, then just whip out another one and light it up right there. That definitely made it tougher as a player, playing in those conditions.

When you got back to the States, how did you decide where to go for your first tattoo? I went to a shop in Bryan College Station [TX]. My mother actually was friends with the guy because





KICK ME
"I DARE YOU!"



they rode bikes together, so that's where we went.

Now that you have collected a lot of tattoos, who's your go-to artist? I come up with the ideas, then I tell my guy, John Slaughter from Tribe Tattoo in Denver, "This is my idea, lay it on me." He sometimes freehands it, like this one [lifts up his shirt to show a fresh outline of a topless woman on the left side of his torso]. That's my angel. Just got it yesterday. It's not like I walk up to a picture on a wall and tell him I want that. He just drew it without looking at a picture and right after that, he just inked it up.

Sounds like you guys have a good artist-client relationship. I am a perfectionist to a T. It's got to look perfect—clean, tight-looking, and ready to go. That's why our collaboration works so well. He also knows I'll punch him in the face if he screws up. You tell [Slaughter] I said that, "I'll punch him in his face." [Laughs.]

So tell us about that insane "Free Bird" tattoo across your neck. I'm a free bird, man. I'm always going to be free. Simple as that.

hardships and to celebrate those good times. It's basically like saying, "I wear my heart out on my sleeve." Literally.

One of those lows hit when you got a two-year ban from the NBA in 2006 for violating the league's substance-abuse policy. What was your first thought when you found out?

Just devastation. Here I had been working so hard as a kid and a teenager to get to this point—sleep, eat, dream basketball—and at that moment, I truly fucked up. I lost my dream. It was really devastating. I got knocked back into that same situation where I was drinking and doing cocaine. Just like, "Fuck it. I've lost everything, fuck it." It was "Free Bird" by Lynyrd Skynyrd—when I heard the lyrics to that song, it really changed me around. I went and poured all the alcohol in the toilet and dumped out all the drugs. Fuck it. I'm gonna get back on that right track. I went to rehab, straightened up, and here I am.

Why didn't you try to make an excuse or fight the ruling in court like a lot of other busted athletes? If you made that decision and you didn't

in?" Then the next thing you know, I'm heading off after practice to go get tatted up. Then the next day, I'm like, "Hey J.R., check this shit out." Then [Nuggets forward] Al Harrington goes and gets tatted up and it starts all over again. When you see someone else's art or they see mine, everyone just influences everyone to go get tatted up. Sometimes when we're sitting around bullshitting on the bench, we'll just start brainstorming ideas for our next tats. "What are you gonna get?" "I don't know, what are you thinking?"

The NBA is full of players covered in ink. What type of impact do you think that has on the fans? Any young kid, or college kid, sees us in the NBA with however many tattoos we got and it definitely makes it acceptable for them. Then they want to get tattoos too because they know it's okay.

You've built a solid relationship with your younger fans through community service. **Why is that?** I think it's because I lived in a children's home and that experience really rubbed off on me. My mother wasn't around, my father rarely came around, so I was just sitting there in the

"Any young kid, or college kid, sees us in the NBA with however many tattoos we got and it definitely makes it acceptable for them."

You never worried about the needle on your neck? Think about it: You shave all the time, man. It didn't really hurt. The jaw line kind of got my attention because of the bone. When he hit that, it kinda went zzz. You kinda go, "Ooh, yeah, that feels great." But with all that pain I go through running and gunning on the court and all that crazy stuff I do in my personal life, it ain't no problem.

What about the wings you have under each arm? Those hurt, but that mainly came from Birdman, my nickname. Flying high, taking over the sky.

Which of your tattoos has been the most painful? The rib area hurts, but the stomach hurts the worst. [When I get tattooed] I don't do any kind of pills, I don't get drunk, I just do it straight up. That's the only way to do it.

Which tattoo means the most to you? Every single one of them; not one has more meaning than the other. They all relate. They all involve my personal life and the positions I've been in, as far as being on a roller coaster ride. I'm always gonna be back at the top. No matter how hard you get knocked down, you always get yourself back up. That's where I get my ideas. The thoughts on what kind of tattoo I'm gonna get to represent those

think about the consequences, then there ain't nowhere to point the finger at but yourself. I had to change myself because if I stayed on that same path I probably wouldn't be here today—I'd probably be dead.

Do you have any tattoos from those two years away from basketball? Once I got suspended, I had a lot of free time on my hands. I was in the shop all the time. I just got tatted up. That's when it blew up. About 80 percent of [my tattoos] are all from that time. This whole torso is from then. I was in that situation and I wanted to remind myself on a daily basis that this is what happened. That keeps pushing me in the gym. It encourages me to stay on the right track. If something bad happens, you can't let it deter you, you just got to keep moving forward. Sometimes it all comes at once and you really feel like giving up. But you have to reenergize yourself and refuel yourself and that really motivates you to move forward.

You play on the Nuggets, where a lot of guys on the team have some serious ink. Do you guys ever talk about your art with each other? Swish [Nuggets guard J.R. Smith] will go get tattooed up and you're like, "Man, that's cool." Then you start thinking about that idea for that next tattoo you want. Then I call up [Slaughter], "Hey, can I come

home thinking, "I just gotta keep moving forward." There was one Christmas where the alumni from Northeast Texas brought us into this big conference room full of gifts and trees and big presents stacked, like, seven feet high. So I've been there, I've gone through what they're going through. They understand what I'm talking about. I try to give them inspiration to never give up and keep fighting.

What's the craziest thing you've seen from your older fans since your career took off in the NBA? People dress up like me for Halloween. I don't know if I should take that as a cool thing, or is that an insult, because I'm a scary motherfucker, you know what I mean? My friends will send me pics from everywhere. They'll be in Vegas, or Texas, and they'll send me pics of people dressed like me, like, "Ha ha ha, check this shit out." And I'll be like, "Yeah, I'm one scary motherfucker."

So what's next for the scary motherfucker? I'm looking to get tattooed up by Chris Nuñez from *Miami Ink*. He's gonna tat me up. I think he's actually opening up a new shop down in Miami. I told him, "Let me know when you're opening up a new shop and I'll come down." I'm probably going to fill up the rest of my back, shade that. When I'm done with my torso, I'm gonna be done. That's it. I'm gonna take a break. ■



SEAH STEEL PANTHER

SIXTY PERCENT OF THE TIME,
STEEL PANTHER
GLAM-ROCKS THE HOUSE EVERY TIME.

BY BRYAN REESMAN
PHOTOS BY DUSTIN COHEN



From left: Lexxi Foxxx, Michael Starr, Satchel, and Stix Zadinia.

IF YOU WANT TO DO THE '80S TIME WARP AGAIN, get yourself down to the House of Blues in Los Angeles on a Monday or catch Steel Panther on the road. Vocalist Michael Starr, axe master Satchel, bassist Lexxi Foxxx, and skin beater Stix Zadinia deliver the kind of over-the-top heavy rock peppered with sensitive balladry that was the norm on the Sunset Strip back in the day. But now their show is anything but normal (thanks to both the band and the current era), and going to a Panther performance is like being in L.A. in the '80s: sweatbands, spandex, neon shirts, tight skirts, and all.

Some call Steel Panther a novelty act, but we call them a blast from the past. The boys in the band claim to have been around in the '80s but say they somehow managed to miss out on

making the big time, mainly because they didn't show up for their big showcase and then vanished inexplicably. But that doesn't stop Zadinia from declaring Steel Panther to be "the world's best heavy metal band ever, in the history of mankind and beyond." As a big middle finger to their critics and disbelievers, Steel Panther are back with a vengeance. Their 2009 debut album, *Feel the Steel*—featuring their catchy ode to infidelity, "Community Property" (sample lyrics: "My heart belongs to you, but my cock is community property")—made waves across America and Europe. Now their second album, *Balls Out*, wants to ride that crest of popularity to new heights and has helped them mine new personal depths with fresh tunes such as "17 Girls in a Row" and "It Won't Suck Itself." Depth perception is relative.

On stage, the group lets audience members

know that they plan to take home everyone else's girlfriends. Starr bounces around the stage like David Lee Roth but he occasionally pulls a muscle. Satchel shreds like a maniac (for real) and admits that he needs Starr in his band despite the fact that he looks like a pudgy Roth. (Starr retorts that he's more like a slim Vince Neil.) Foxxx lets his lovely blond locks billow so that women will scream for him, while Zadinia smashes the crap out of his kit with wild abandon. And they are often joined by celebrity fans like Scott Ian and Kelly Clarkson.

Before a recent New York City gig, INKED sat down to interrogate Foxxx and Zadinia about their band, their groupies, and their tattoos. It would be apt to say they are brothers from another mother, including the way they talk about each other's mothers.



INKED: You guys have played with some pretty famous people on stage: Tom Morello, Paul Stanley, Chester Bennington. Is there anybody you want to jam with? Your musical wet dream?

STIX ZADINIA: Do you play?

Drums, recreationally.

Zadinia: Well, I'd like to jam with you.

Excellent. Would we do a two-drum jam?

Zadinia: Yeah, we could do a .38 Special thing.

But a little more complex.

Zadinia: Well, if Lexxi's playing bass, then no.

LEXXI FOXXX: I don't know if I would really want to jam with anybody. Jamming is fun, but you have

to focus on playing the right parts and you have to just do shit.

Zadinia: Lexxi doesn't like to think.

Foxxx: There's more important shit than having to play. Just because somebody's a big rock star, I don't have to know just his songs. I don't even want to—
Zadinia: Okay, if you could eat dinner with any rock star, who would it be?

Foxxx: I don't know if I want to eat dinner because I don't want to get fat. Because even if I do, I love doughnuts and things like that, but then I'll throw them up afterward, so dinner isn't a big deal to me either.

Zadinia: Lexxi cuts costs by throwing up and eating again.

Foxxx: And also the tattoos that we have—since this is for INKED magazine—I don't have that much to cover. If your arm stays skinny, then your tattoos are cheaper. There's not so much to tattoo on it.

What is the secret to writing a good lust song?

Zadinia: You write a love song from the heart, and you write a lust song from the ball sack. You really have to get in there to get all up in the vagina and just imagine what it's like.

Do you have any techniques?

Zadinia: Sometimes we'll sit around with our ball sacks out and write. Not the penis, just the sack. Lexxi doesn't like to do that because his is really long, and it will drag. It gets caught up in the cables and stuff.

Foxxx: It's because I'm tall.

It's clear from one of the songs on this album that some women have trust issues with you guys. Can you see why?

Zadinia: No. "Why Can't You Trust Me" is a song that is seriously saying, Hey, why can't you trust me? What did I ever do?

Foxxx: Well, there are a lot of things we do. Answer it, dude. I know why they don't trust us: Because we go around and bang a bunch of girls. Then we don't tell them, and they find out because we're starting to get more popular. Then they get mad.

Zadinia: There goes the mystery.

So who's the biggest womanizer in the band?

Zadinia: Michael Starr.

Foxxx: Michael.

Zadinia: He's got the lowest standards.

Foxxx: He will fuck some pretty trippy chicks. He doesn't care where we are or what we're doing or if it's appropriate or not. If he wants to get at a girl, he'll get at a girl, and he'll let you know.

Richie Kotzen got booted out of Poison for sleeping with Rikki Rockett's lady. Has anything like that ever happened in Steel Panther?

Zadinia: I didn't sleep with Rikki Rockett's lady.

Foxxx: I don't know who Richie Kotzen is. Wait, I know, he's the guitar dude.

Zadinia: Here's the difference between Poison and Steel Panther: Poison doesn't understand how

to play the game Pass the Hag. If you don't know that game, then you're going to have problems.

Foxxx: That's one difference, and another difference is we spell our name differently than they spell their name.

So why is it that guys who dress like chicks get more chicks?

Zadinia: Because chicks like to look at themselves in the mirror, and when they look at a guy who dresses like a chick, like Lexxi, it's kind of like looking at a bitchin' version of themselves. He's hotter than most of the chicks that he fucks. It's like a fun house mirror that shows you a reflection of yourself, but instead of a fat or weird shape, you're just bitchin'.

Foxxx: I've always been ... I'm not gay, but I think that women are bitchin' looking. I wouldn't want to fuck another dude that looked like me—

Zadinia: Yes, you would.

Foxxx: Well—

Zadinia: You would, dude.

Foxxx: If nobody else knew ...

Zadinia: You totally would. Even if people knew.

Foxxx: Yeah, maybe. Maybe just not a lot of people.

So does this mean you guys are more in touch with your feminine sides?

Zadinia: Lexxi is definitely more in touch with his feminine side than I am. I think he's just got a lot more estrogen floating around in his tall, lanky body.

Foxxx: Stix, you're like the alpha male of the group. You're more the caveman type.

Zadinia: Yeah, I'm just more dude-ish, and the guys in the front are more chick-ish.

Foxxx: Let me just say that Stix does a lot of chicks that like that too. What's cool about our band is that a lot of chicks like dudes, and just dude-dudes. And I would say more girls probably like that than girly-girly guys. Some girls like bigger dudes, and then some girls like muscular dudes. We don't have to worry about pouncing on each other's ladies because ladies are attracted to different features. That and Stix's muscles and the way he hits things and shit.

Do you remember everybody you've been with?

Zadinia: I remember a couple. Here's how I know: Every now and then I'll be doing something, and shit will pop into my head like, Oh my God, I gave that chick trick a rusty trombone in fucking San Francisco one night.

Foxxx: It was a jazz club that we were playing in, and there were a lot of leftover instruments that night, so I gave a rusty drum—

Zadinia: That's a different kind of rusty. It's a different thing, dude.

Foxxx: I thought there was one time when we were giving chicks gifts ... but I think he's right. He's talking about a different rusty trombone.

Since you guys were around 25 years ago during the hair metal zenith, what kind of hairspray do you use today?

Zadinia: Aqua Net all the time.

"YOU WRITE A LOVE SONG FROM THE HEART, AND YOU WRITE A LUST SONG FROM THE BALL SACK." -STIX ZADINIA

Foxxx: Especially the Super Mega Hold. There's new products out there, like Paul Mitchell and all kinds of fancy-schmancy things, but our part in bringing heavy metal back is Aqua Net. Even if it's not the best for your hair, it just looks bitchin' next to an amp.

The new song "Tomorrow Night" reveals your sensitive side because it shows that life isn't always a party. Sometimes you're playing video games solo and pleasuring yourself. Is it tough for you guys when the party's not going on?

Zadinia: When the party's not actually going on, we will make the party in our head, even if that means we've got to do a little blow or smoke a little weed. There's never a time that the party's not going on for me personally, but if the party ain't happening, I make my own party.

Foxxx: Basically that's right, yeah. Even if you're by yourself you can have your own party looking forward to the party tomorrow night. There are things you can do by yourself that's still a bitchin' party. The internet is badass. My mom has a computer, and there's all kinds of cool shit she can do on it that I'm learning.

Do your moms go on your Facebook pages?

Zadinia: My mom actually unfriended me. This is true. This is no bullshit. I was writing to two different girls, and I put, "My balls, your chin, 8 o'clock, the usual spot." That was the comment that my mom unfriended me for, for real.

Foxxx: His mom is like a prude.

Zadinia: I mean, she's cool with all the cock stuff, but for some reason the ball imagery on the chin—

Foxxx: My mom read my comments too, but she didn't unfriend me.

Zadinia: I saw Lexxi's mom about an hour ago, and she's cool with that shit, dude. She's told me many times when we're hanging out.

What's the most romantic thing you've ever said to a lady?

Foxxx: "I'm glad you got off your son's Facebook page, now suck my dick."

Zadinia: Oh, I get it, that's my mom.

And what about you, Stix, anything romantic?

Zadinia: "Fuck you, Lexxi's mom!"

I see how you can score a lot of dates that way.

Foxxx: Well, you know, here's another romantic thing I just forgot. I'm going to tell Stix that he's my kid now.

Zadinia: I forgot one other thing. "Lexxi's mom, I just gave you herpes." That's the most romantic thing I've ever said.

Stix, I think you're hurting his feelings.

Zadinia: I'm sorry, dude.

Foxxx: Dumb game.

Zadinia: I'm sorry, dude.

Foxxx: I love pounding your mom's ass.

Zadinia: And seriously, your mom already knew I gave her herpes.

So let's talk tattoos. Who's more inked up between the two of you?

Foxxx: Stix is.

Zadinia: Yeah. I've got my tribal, here, I have my island here [points to his right arm]. I've got my flowers, my bamboo, and my pagoda right here. This is a Japanese elm. I have my waterfalls, my bats, my volcano. I got my flowers here on top of my chest.

You have some swirls on your left hip. That wraps around a bit?

Zadinia: Yeah, it goes around the ass area.

What about your right leg?

Zadinia: Kat Von D did this one.

Foxxx: That's my favorite one.

Zadinia: Rob Nunez at HB Tattoo did both my arms and my neck. Kat did [the skull] on my right bottom leg.

It's very feminine skull. It has eyelashes.

Zadinia: That's the girl, with a big earring and flowers in her hair. Then there's the dude skull [next to it] with roses. Scott Sylvia did my left shoulder. That was my first tattoo ever, actually. I think the guys at 222 finished a piece of my left calf. I got most of that stuff up in San Francisco.

There's a lot of tribal and tropical stuff going on here. What's the significance of it all?

Zadinia: Here's what happened: I got tribal on my left arm, and then I saw a bunch of fucking douchebags with tribal on their arms, just tribal, and I walked into Rob's shop and said, Dude, just fill it in with all these Japanese waves underneath because I don't want to be like Joe Schmo rockin' the tribal.

Foxxx: Before he had the flower colored in I thought, That is a bitchin' tattoo; I love that. But it looked like a cock was going in his throat.

Zadinia: So I could remind me of when I choked you with my cock.

Foxxx: You never did that.

What about your ink, Lexxi?

Foxxx: Stix helped me with a lot of this, actually. When I was a lot younger, in my 30s, I started getting a couple of small things. Stix said I should stick with a theme and go with a Japanese-Oriental theme because it is not going to go out of style. Kat has done a lot of my stuff as well. She did my chest. Basically I stuck with the flowers. ... I've got a sword going right here.

You've got the samurai swords with a rose on top, on your tummy.

Foxxx: I've got the Buddha on my back, under my neck and down. I have a geisha that Kat did, where she's alive and bitchin'. One of the coolest tattoos that we did one night is when we all went out partying. We used to do our "drunk tattoos"—me, Kat, Scott Ian, and Stix. Here's what Scott Ian did on me: an Anthrax tattoo. We were all ham and cheeses. I think that's the only tattoo he's given, unless he's decided to do that more. Then there's a cardinal on my right hand.

Zadinia: He loooovvvves baseball.

You have a heart on your middle finger. If you flipped somebody off, it's kind of like saying, "I heart you and I hate you."

Foxxx: That was another party tattoo with the same group of people, I think. I have a D for dummy under my watch. I did that tattoo.

What is the significance for all these tattoos for you? Why the geisha? Why the dragon?

Foxxx: Asian hookers are bitchin'. ... I wanted to stick with the same theme. I wanted to get tattoos that wouldn't go out of style. I knew that Japanese tattoos wouldn't go out of style.

During your trip to New York did you check out the Occupy Wall Street movement?

Zadinia: What is that again? I don't know what the hell that is. I just got PS3. Is that for PS3 or Xbox?

Foxxx: It's a Charlie Sheen movie.

It's anti-corporate protests.

Zadinia: The game's not out? Is it a demo?

Foxxx: It's a movie that Charlie Sheen's in.

I guess you could say they're going through trials right now.

Zadinia: It sounds cool.

Foxxx: It's a movie, Stix. It's not a game.

Zadinia: He said it's a game for Xbox. It sounds cool.

If you guys weren't in rock 'n' roll, what would you be doing?

Zadinia: I'm not qualified to do anything else. I would be a street person and get high and bone chicks.

Foxxx: I would want to be a model.

Zadinia: A gay model.

Foxxx: I wouldn't be a gay model. I would want to be a model for bitchin' heavy metal clothes.

Back to music. What do you say to bands that think you are not heavy enough or are posers?

Zadinia: Suck our dicks.

Foxxx: Who cares? There will be some people who hate us and some people who like us. Luckily, a lot of bitches like us.

Zadinia: If you don't like us, we will screw your ladies. ■

"WHEN I STARTED TATTOOING IT WAS SOMETHING I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW I COULD MAKE MONEY DOING. NOW, EVERY COUPLE OF YEARS THERE IS SOMETHING GOING ON IN MY LIFE THAT I DIDN'T THINK WAS POSSIBLE." —OLIVER PECK



PHOTO BY DUSTIN COHEN



OLIVER PECK

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BY ROCKY RAKOVIC
PORTRAIT BY DUSTIN COHEN

Oliver Peck has the hottest tattoo gun in Texas. Out of Elm Street Tattoo, on the outskirts of Dallas, the master artist creates traditional American designs with a twist, adding his own flair here and there and sometimes incorporating colors that weren't available when traditional tattoos were just called tattoos. Peck is perhaps the most-traveled tattooist ever; he's constantly visiting new cities on his own or as the resident artist on the Vans Warped Tour.

As of late, Peck has also taken over control of True Tattoo in Los Angeles and will be one of the esteemed judges on Spike TV's tattoo reality competition show, *Ink Master*. "When I started tattooing it was something I didn't even know I could make money doing," he says. "Now, every couple of years there is something going on in my life that I didn't think was possible. I am always trying pushing to do more and to never be satisfied."

INKED: How did you become a tattoo artist?

OLIVER PECK: I was always an artist. I was always drawing on everything—my leg, my pants, school desks. I drew mostly ergonomic shapes, kind of attempts at Salvador Dalí-esque triptychs. Sometimes it was figures of humans mixed in with some weird line-work crap that my drug-induced mind was thinking of at the time.

And tattoos? In my hometown of Fort Worth,

Texas, the only people with tattoos were the bikers and the punk rockers, the type of people who looked like they just got out of prison. As soon as I saw tattoos, that was just the next step after drawing on myself. I started tattooing by hand-poking myself. And then, over the years, that grew and I made some homemade tattoo equipment; then I bought some crappy tattoo equipment; then I worked at a crappy tattoo shop; and then I got the opportunity to actually learn how to tattoo and start

**"OTHER [PROGRAMS] SHOW TATTOOS HERE AND THERE BUT DON'T SHOW A LOT OF TATTOOING;
INK MASTER IS DRIVEN BY PRESSURE OF TATTOOING, NOT THE DRAMA THAT GOES ON BETWEEN TATTOOS."**



over from scratch. Richard Stell offered me a job to come learn at Paradise Tattoo Dallas in the early '90s, and that's when it really started. I learned how to put on good outlines, where to put shapes, use of colors, and different needle groupings rather than me scribbling artsy bullshit on them.

That's where you picked up your traditional style of work? I was definitely brought up in the Texas tattoo scene. In the early '90s, Texas style wasn't really comic-booky, it wasn't really graffiti, it wasn't really traditional—but it was a mesh of big, bold lines, lots of bright colors, lots of heavy black, and large coverage of the body. The tattoos fully encompassed the skin and were crazy. We'd take something like a Rat Fink, then make its eyes bug out and have it shitting green ooze all over the place. Texas tattooing was about taking something normal and making it out of whack.

Do you feel that is still the style? I would say that when I first started tattooing and traveling 20 years ago, regional styles and cities themselves were very unique. There used to be a really unique Texas tattoo style, especially with Stell, Chris

Trevino, Dave Lum, Mike Malone, and Bob Roberts. Now everything looks the same. With the advancement of technology, styles spread all over the world, but each place is losing its individual flavor and just becoming one big international scene. The whole tattoo style of Europe was totally different; Japanese style was totally different; American style was totally different. There are probably more people doing Japanese tattoos in America than there are in Japan. It is just crazy that we are growing and advancing, but at the same time we are losing small aspects of what we came from.

And this stems from the internet, easier travel, and the overall shift toward openness in the tattoo scene? Yes, all of that. Now there is a young kid who can be tattooing in Texas and his main influence is a tattooer from London. You used to grow up influenced by the guy down the street, and that created more diversity.

You also mentioned that cities in general are becoming more homogenous. You used to go to Chicago and get pizza and it was amazing. Now there's five Chicago pizza restaurants in every city.

The first time I went to Chicago I was blown away by how amazing it was, but now every place seems the same. Every city has the same stores, the same restaurants, and the same people. It is a bummer to me. People in America want that same goddamn flavor of Starbucks coffee every morning, so if they wake up in Cincinnati they want it to taste the same as it did yesterday in Tucson. Really? Nothing has a unique signature anymore. And me, being a lover of vintage, I'd like to see Las Vegas in the '60s or New York in the '30s, but even remnants of those eras are dead now because we are nationalized. Now I think the whole world is going to become one big metropolitan area that is crowded with too many people who want the same exact Abercrombie T-shirt.

Do you, as one of the most prolific traveling tattooers, feel that your style has been compromised by international influence? I definitely soak up influence everywhere, but I haven't really made any drastic changes in my style of art. There may be flairs here and there, but I don't do much travel to pick up a new look but rather to share my own style. Whether I'm in Italy or Arkansas people want the same thing from me.

Other than your love of vintage style, why did you choose to concentrate on the American traditional style of tattooing? It is just the best. It is solid, it is bold, it is clean. If you got a tattoo 30 years ago, right now it still looks good, and it's got history, it's got art, and it's got culture.

Do you think there is enough range in traditional tattooing? If people come to me because they've seen other tattoos that I did and they want that same tattoo, that makes me happy because they are stoked on my work. I do try to change it a little so that everybody gets something different, but a lot of people do just get the same tattoo over and over. People just want that cool traditional tattoo, and I just love that. The perfect tattoo is a skull and a snake. If someone comes to me and doesn't have a skull and a snake I give them a skull and a snake.

So you're like a musician who doesn't mind playing his hits day in, day out? I don't want to do nothing but a skull and snake ever, but I don't want to never do a skull and snake again. I don't want to say that I did too many skulls and snakes and that I'm not going to do that anymore—though I will say I have done too many wolves howling at the moon and I don't want to do those anymore.

Are there parallels between rock stars and tattooers? There are similarities, but rock stars technically don't have the work-for-a-living ethic,

"NOW THERE IS A YOUNG KID WHO CAN BE TATTOOING IN TEXAS AND HIS MAIN INFLUENCE IS A TATTOOER FROM LONDON. YOU USED TO GROW UP INFLUENCED BY THE GUY DOWN THE STREET, AND THAT CREATED MORE DIVERSITY."



and I think most good tattooers have a heavy work-all-day ethic. There's always at least one member of the band who works while the rest just play music.

What has it been like being the touring tattooer on the Vans Warped Tour? I love just being on the road and doing nothing but cool tats all summer long. There are a lot of good bands, a lot of shitty bands, some shitty bands are cool people and some cool bands are shitty people. But you take the good with the bad. The key element is that the kids in these bands are on the tour all summer long trapped in this traveling circus, but they only play music for 30 minutes a day so the rest of the day they are just doing nothing, and going to get a tattoo is a perfect distraction.

Did you get to live the rock star life? It depends on what you mean. I've been on the road living on tour buses, waking up in a new city and meeting new people every day. It is a crazy travel-vacation-work-party experience. Every day is like a bachelor party. You can party 60 days straight if you wanted to, and a lot of people do. But I had to tattoo every day.

Will you be touring this year? I will be affiliated somehow, I'm just not sure in what commitment yet. And right now I'm working on a new Vans shoe.

What else is new in your world? I am the new owner of True Tattoo in Los Angeles. I had been working there five years—anywhere from one week a month to once every couple of months—and recently Clay Decker didn't want to own it anymore, he wanted to live a carefree life. I ended up taking it over. We have talented tattooers like Small Paul Stottler, Little Dave Parker, Dougie Mittz, Chris Blanchard, Tyson Arndt, Karen Costleigh, and Sal Trevino. I'm splitting time between there and my shop in Deep Ellum, Texas—Elm Street Tattoo—which I've co-owned with Dean Williams for 15 years.

And you have your duties as judge of *Ink Master*. I'm very excited about that. I hope people have time to watch it. In the genre of [reality competition] shows, tattooing fits the model better than other ideas, like cooking. There's a lot of challenge: The contestants are creating something more substantial than a bean sprout something. Not to devalue chefs, but there is a lot more interaction in *Ink Master*. You have the person getting a tattoo who needs to be made happy, you have an artist with time constraints and challenges on designs, you have the competition between the artists, you have the dramatic reveal of what goes on, and you have the reality aspect of people living together and trying to battle it out while remaining friends. It's competition TV taken to the limit—and a lot of real good tattoos will get done.

How do you feel about your judging partners, Chris Nunez and Dave Navarro? We go through these tattoos giving our pros and cons and let people know why we are making our decisions—it is a tough deal. Nunez and I have been friends for 15 years; he is well-traveled and knows all styles. There are 100 people out there who could judge, but I think we did a good job. We gave honest opinions and honest critiques and just called out the points that needed to be called out. Dave Navarro is a badass fucking dude who does an excellent job driving the show as a host. A lot of people in the tattoo community may be leery about some rock star trying to give his voice on tattoos, but that's not the point. He is a charismatic good guy who leads this whole show through, so I am pretty stoked on him.

How do you think the tattoo community will receive the show? I think the tattoo industry is probably going to hate on it because it is tattoo TV. There's been so much bad tattoo TV already, and just the idea of another tattoo show gives people a sour taste in their mouths. But at least this one is about tattooing. As far as the general public, it's going to be interesting. Hopefully they'll like seeing and learning about tattooing as opposed to having a dramatic show based at a tattoo shop. Other [programs] show tattoos here and there but don't show a lot of tattooing; *Ink Master* is driven by pressure of tattooing, not the drama that goes on between tattoos.

On that thought, do you still talk to your ex-wife Kat Von D? I do not.

It was odd to see you quoted in *In Touch* magazine. [Laughs.] They just called me and I answered some questions. Why not? Since then dozens of those same magazines called me and I said I already answered those questions—it's always the same bullshit.

And now you are going to be on a TV show, like she is. It is what it is. She also has a million dollars, and I don't. But she can have it. I'd rather be happy.

Is it odd to you that relationships can be so public? I think that it is just silly. There is a demand for it, so there it is. There wouldn't be a Starbucks on every corner if no one wanted it. There wouldn't be a story about Jennifer Aniston's haircut every week if nobody wanted to read it.

Speaking of hair, what's up with your mustache? Ah, man, it had to go. I'm clean-shaven. Eventually you get tired of chewing on it every time you eat a sandwich. And it was cool when it was funny, but when people started to take it seriously it lost a little bit of its flavor.

Like some tattoos? You can't shave off tattoos. Stick to traditional tattoos. ■

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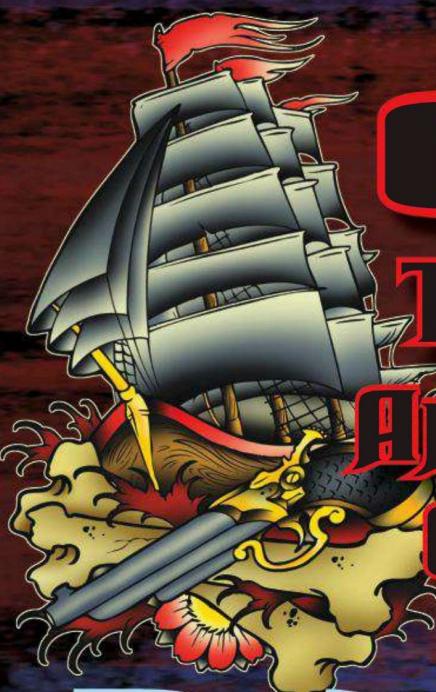
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Back row, from left: Jason Paxman, Sable Richter, Phil Luck, Nick Bones, Austin Spencer, J Wood, Becki Spencer, Courtney Spencer, Charlie Spencer. Front row: Mike Biggs, Justin Wilson.

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BY LANI BUESS
PORTRAIT AND INTERIOR BY JACOB KEPLER

One blowout was over music. Tattoo artist Charlie Spencer put on some solemn country tunes and went to work on his client. Austin Spencer, who prefers a more upbeat vibe, walked in, turned off the song, and kicked the trash can in what Courtney Spencer calls "an adult temper tantrum."

With long workdays it's common for tempers to flare occasionally among tattoo artists, but imagine working alongside relatives: Father (Charlie) and Son (Austin) are tattoo artists and owners of Studio 21 Tattoo Gallery. Mom (Becki) is co-owner and the behind-the-scenes business maven who runs the website, while Daughter (Courtney) covers the front desk. "I think we've developed pretty thick skin," laughs Austin. "Music is the only big thing we fight over these days."

The charismatic Spencers have caught the attention of countless producers who've been eager to put the clan on TV, but so far the family has graciously rebuffed the offers, since they feared an explosive outcome. Admittedly, the first five years the family worked together "were kind of rough," says Austin. "But we've come to terms and realized our positions." And sometimes that requires

putting a parent in check. "When I'm at work, I call my dad 'Charlie,'" says Courtney. "I pretty much tell him what to do. I manage him just like I manage everybody else." Despite the challenges of working with family, the Spencer siblings would want it no other way. "Why not work for your family instead of working for the man?" asks Courtney.

The father-son bond over tattooing began when Austin was a teen. He'd routinely watch as his dad got tattooed, and both men, infatuated by the art form, discussed eventually working together. But breaking ground on a father-and-son shop would take some time. When Austin expressed interest in tattooing during his college years, a would-be mentor blew him off. But Austin's artistic skills—and a strategic move—eventually paid off. "I kind of pimped out a female friend that [my mentor] had a crush on," says Austin, who has been tattooing for 11 years. "I would bring her around to get him to teach me how to tattoo."

Just as Austin began tattooing full time, Charlie, who had been a land surveyor for 32 years, quit his day job and began his apprenticeship. "I've been an artist all my life as a hobby," says Charlie. "I



Clockwise from top left: tattoo by Austin Spencer; interior of Studio 21 Tattoo Gallery; tattoo by Charlie Spencer; tattoo by Nick Bones; tattoo by Jason Paxman; tattoo by Justin Wilson; tattoo by Mike Biggs; tattoo by J Wood; tattoo by Phil Luck.



really wanted to do it as a vocation, but I never did quite find my niche. Tattooing was it."

The duo tattooed side-by-side at a shop for six months but realized it just wasn't working out. "You've got people paying for a really expensive service to be done ... and I was tired of all the arrogance," says Austin of his former coworkers. So the family opened Studio 21 to put the focus on the client, not the artists' egos.

"We're not trying to impress anybody with the fact that we're good artists," says Charlie, a traditional artist who has 10 years of experience and is inspired

by the naval tattoos of his uncles. "We're trying to impress people with the fact that they can come here, get a good tattoo, and know that when they come back two years later that same guy's going to be sitting there willing to tattoo them again."

The Spencer empire began in 2003 as a two-man, 1,300-square-foot shop in a seedy Las Vegas neighborhood "where you spent a little more time worrying about who's walking in the door," laughs Charlie. Since then, the shop has relocated, doubled in size, and now employs eight artists in a quaint suburban neighborhood with celebrity clientele. The Spencer

ladies also came on board due to demand. (Courtney was living in Denver when her brother summoned her to help with the shop. "I didn't realize it was going to turn into five years later," she laughs.)

By keeping it in the family and working their asses off, the Spencers have achieved success. Today, the shop's open seven days a week, and you'll find at least two family members, if not all of them, working during any given shift. "My family has something cool to offer, and I just want to share it with everybody," says Austin. Charlie just wants to share the family legacy with a grandson someday. No pressure. ■



PETER AURISCH

FROM: Nevada Johnny
VISIT: peteraurisch.com

Where are you these days? Jessica Mach and I just opened a shop in Berlin called Nevada Johnny. It's not a walk-in-shop; you can only get the address when you book an appointment.

How is tattooing in Germany? I think we have a lot of creative artists and some craftsmen of outstanding ability here.

What do you try to accomplish when you pick up the tattoo needle? I like having fun with my work and then going home feeling satisfied every day. It feels quite good to give customers something special on their way through life.

What made you want to become a tattoo artist? Drawing only on paper was boring me. My work on

skin gives me more of a challenge, and it's a great experience to work on something that is living. I get new ideas nearly every day, and I always try to put them directly to my clients' skin. It's hard to describe my style ... but each tattoo is like a little piece of me.

What's the difference between drawing and working with tattoos? You can do anything you want on skin—if you've got the skills. You just need to use different techniques to make it last longer.

Do you look at tattooing as art? For some people it's art, for some it's not—and that's okay. Everyone can make his personal choice about what kind of skin work he wants to get—something more artistic or the old-school handcrafted way. Both can be beautiful, both ugly. ■



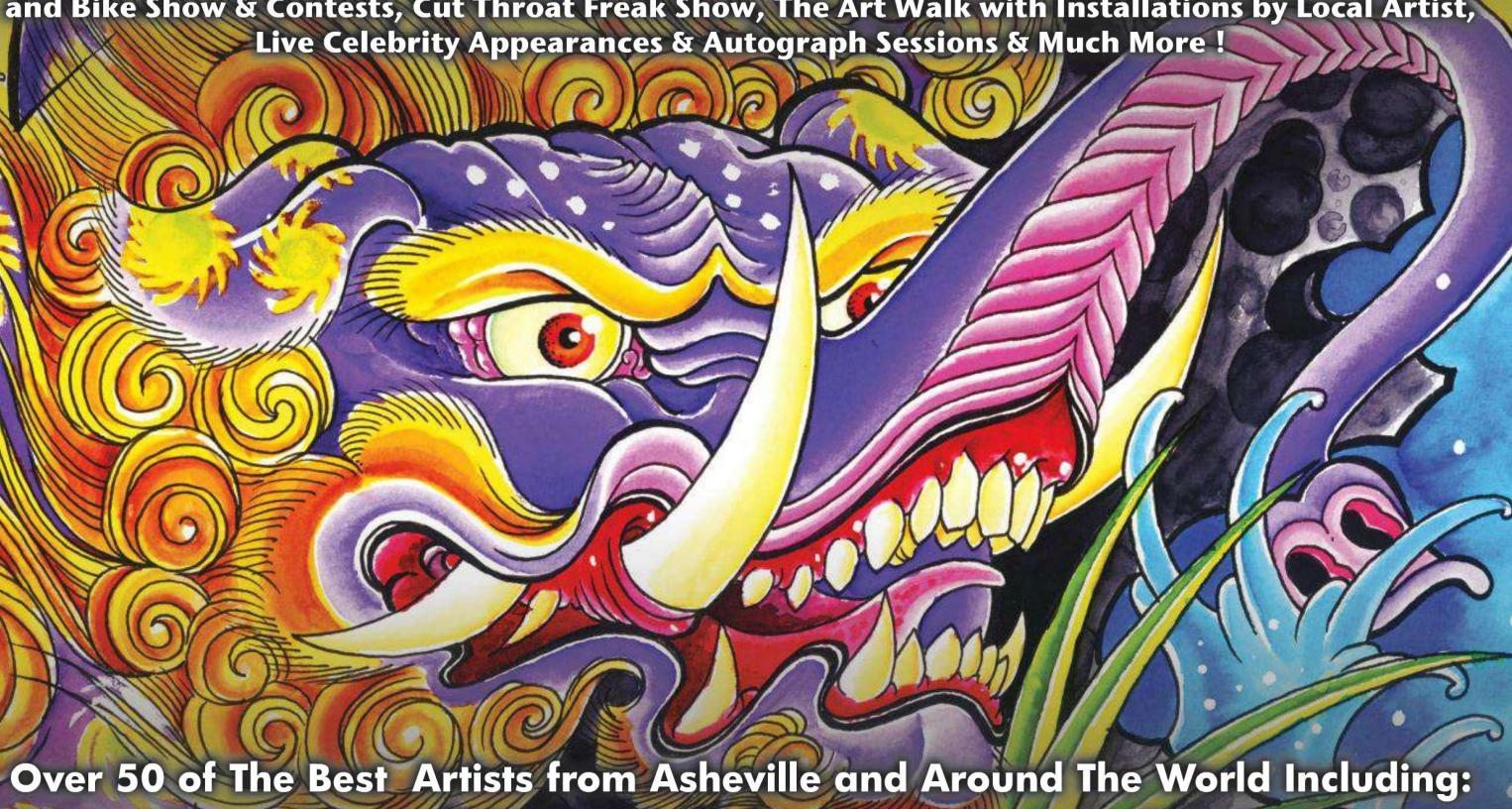
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inked scene | SHOP TALK

NAME: Naomi Hopeful

APPRENTICE AT: Armageddon Tattoo Studio, Brooklyn, NY

I LIKE WORKING HERE BECAUSE I love the fact that I am actually learning something during my apprenticeship, not just sitting here looking cute. I like being the only girl—I'm used to it.

YOU KNOW WHAT'S COOL? I remember my brothers getting tattooed at this shop when they were teenagers. I can't wait to start tattooing—it's harder than TV shows make it seem.

IT CAN BE CRAZY AT THE SHOP. We've been robbed at gunpoint a couple of times, and we've partied with the local law enforcement, but usually it's mellow and chill.



Know a stellar shop assistant who keeps the autoclave humming and the tattoo stations organized? E-mail us at shopgirl@inkedmag.com.

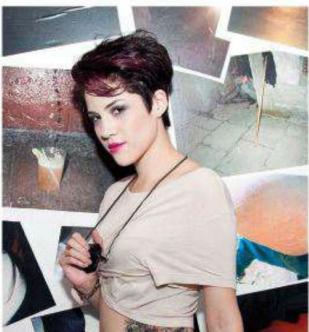
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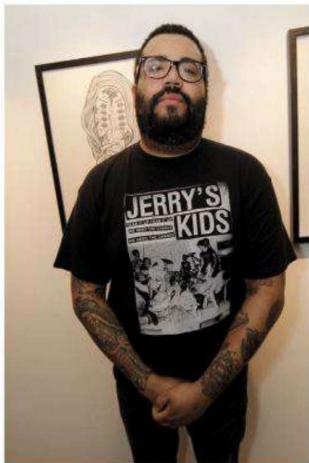
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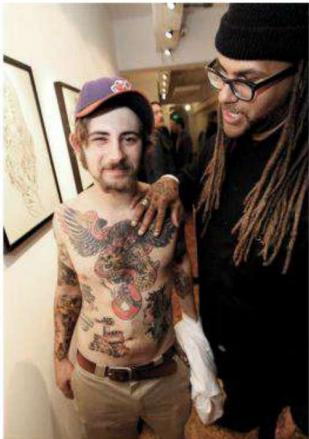
INKED NOVEMBER RELEASE PARTY

The music was loud, the art on the walls was brash, and the tattoos were bold at our November issue launch party. The fete was hosted by Work in Progress, a sick underground club in Soho, and fueled with Bulldog Gin, Prometheus Springs mixers, Apothic Red wine, the sweet sounds of DJ Martial, and the hippest INKED readers.





THE HYDRILLA X MIKE GIANT
The Hydrilla in San Francisco hosted Mike Giant and the Skullz Press for a launch of a few new zines. The crowd got loose on Pabst Blue Ribbon while eyeing impressive artwork, including Giant's limited edition print for the event.

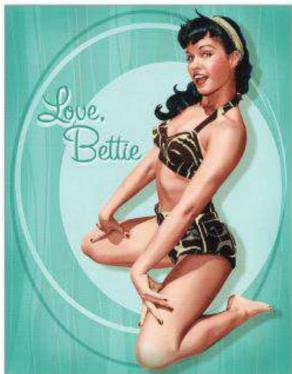


INKED
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MESMEREYZED

Eyes are the window to the soul. This raw brass Skull and Bones Dog Tag by Gasoline Glamour (\$19.95, store.inkedmag.com) has deep and arresting eyes thanks to two Swarovski Crystals.



PIRATE PRINT

It's "A Pirate's Wife for Me." (\$29.95, store.inkedmag.com) Bask in the beauty of this giclee print by artist Rachel Ann from Steadfast Brand.



KNUCKLE UP

Artist John Watson created this Brass Knuckles Belt Buckle (\$65, store.inkedmag.com) for Watto. This buckle is made of steel, distressed on the bottom and shiny on the top, so it'll really pack a punch!



ANIMAL INSTINCT

Show some teeth and let the world know you have no fear. Artist Jake Stein created this sick Tiger Cuff (\$260, store.inkedmag.com) for Boy NYC, available in multiple finishes.



THIS IS YOUR LIFE ON A TANK TOP

Tired of all the haters? Tell 'em off in the My Life My Way racer-back tank from Steadfast Brand (\$24, store.inkedmag.com). Fashion speaks volumes.



CARISSA ROSE ART

"Hollywood is a place where they'll pay you a thousand dollars for a kiss and fifty cents for your soul," said Marilyn Monroe. Get this print by Carissa Rose (\$29.95, store.inkedmag.com).



HELLO, SAILOR

Ladies, catch any sailor's eye with these nautical earrings. Decorated with little pink polka-dotted bows and pink faceted cubes, the Sailor Suzie Bow Charm earrings (\$12.95, store.inkedmag.com) are not only adorable, they're affordable.



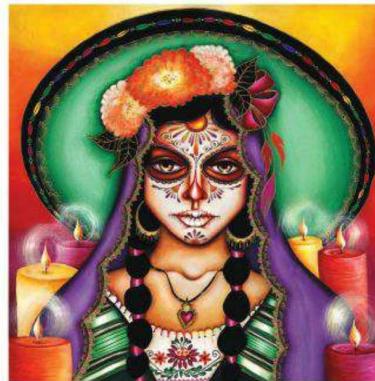
DEAD HEAD

There aren't many images as beautiful and crushing as the skulls produced for Mexico's Dia de los Muertos, the Day of the Dead. Dragon's Treasure sugar skull pendant (\$24.95, store.inkedmag.com) is an impressive contribution to the canon.



TATTOOELRY

Attach this Sterling Silver Tattoo Machine Pendant (\$79.95, store.inkedmag.com) to your favorite chain. Whether you're a tattoo artist or a tattoo collector, this piece will fit in nicely with your work.



CAT PRINTS

We can't get enough of Cat Ashworth's art, especially this vibrant work, *Ilumina Mi Camino* (\$19.95, store.inkedmag.com), that leaves the walls of any room feeling inspired. Check out the rest of our collection in the INKED Store.



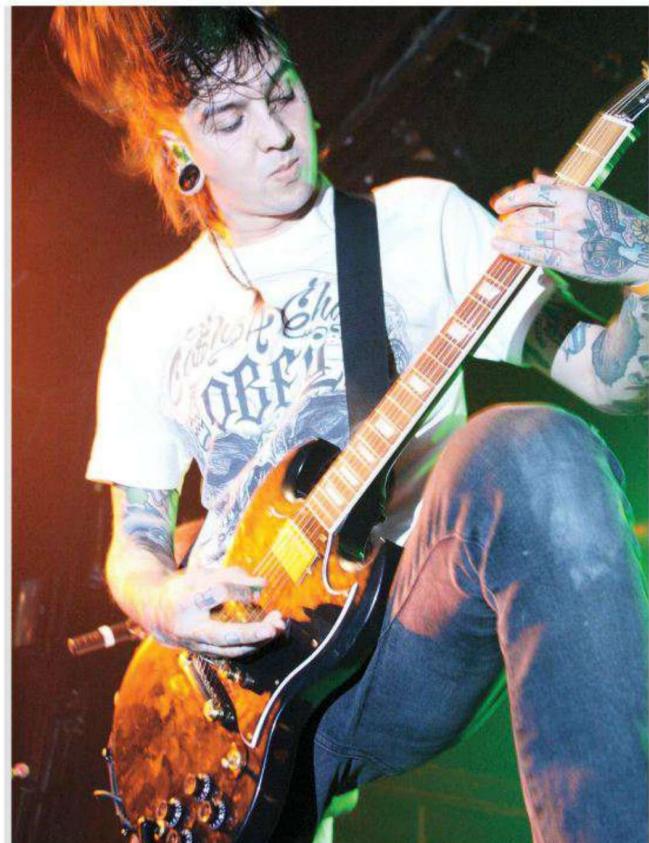
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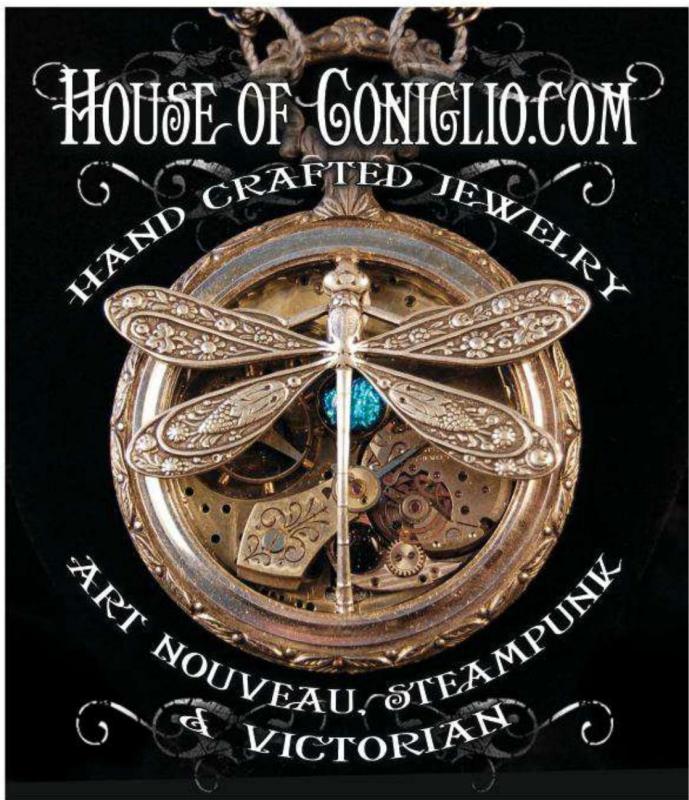
Make a bold statement in this hoodie (\$60, store.inkedmag.com) supped up with art from Chris Parks and Jason Kelly on the back and the Steadfast Brand logo on the front.

inked scene | EVENTS



PIERCE THE VEIL, IRVING PLAZA
Live Nation always delivers a full concert experience, but little did we know that the Live Nation-Pierce the Veil experience included an abundance of our two favorite things: tattoos and girls with tattoos. There was even a girl with a PTV album cover tattoo.

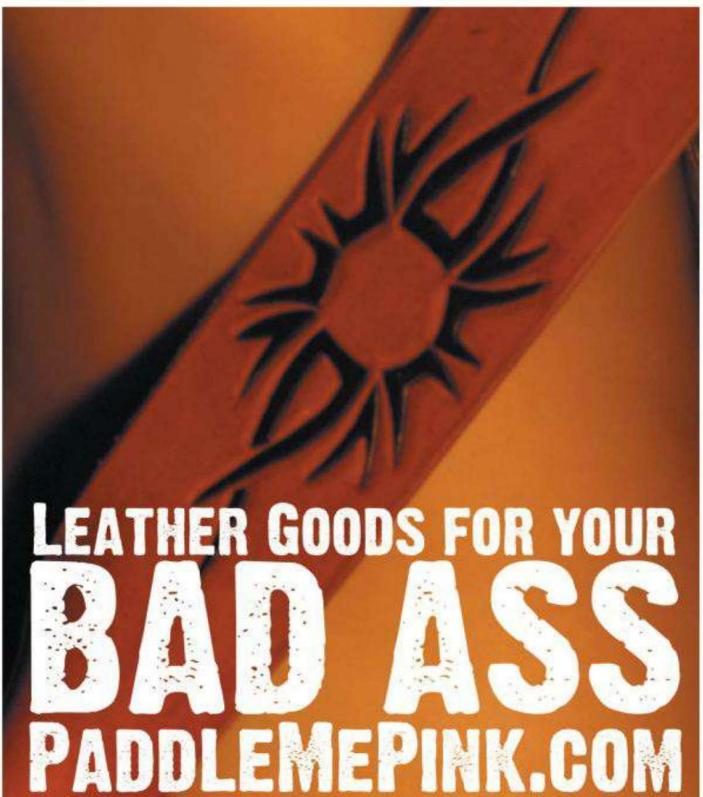




HUMOR IN INK BY JOHN JAGUSAK



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MIKE MOSES

Thicker Than Water Tattoo, 181 Ave. B, New York City, thedrownstown.com, sufferme.tumblr.com

Mike Moses creates clean-lined, fantastical art, and recently made the move from Richmond, VA, to New York City. "Manhattan is the same as Richmond—people in both cities take a lot of pride in what they do," he says. But he's come a long way. "As part of my apprenticeship I had to tattoo myself before I was allowed to work on anyone else. I picked this half-dollar-sized rose that was drawn by my mentor, Fred Pinckard. ... He would make a line, I would make a line, then we would stop, smoke a cigarette, talk about it for five to 10 minutes, then repeat. Two packs of cigarettes later, my swollen, bruised, bleeding, blown-out, amazing rose was done. I limped for a month—pretty sure if I die in a fire, they'll still know it's me." And when the fire comes, what would he like on his gravestone? "It's hard to put things on unmarked graves, but if you happen to find a few pieces of me ... I suppose I'm partial to strawberries. Yup, strawberries."

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